H.7.114

THE DEVOUT CHRISTIAN

Instructed

How to PRAY and give THANKS to GOD:

OR,

A Book of Devotions

FOR

FAMILIES:

AND

For Particular Persons

IN

Most of the concerns of Humane Life.

By the Author of the

CHRISTIAN SACRIFICE.

1 Thess. 5. 17. *Pray without ceasing.*
18. *In every thing give thanks.*

LONDON,
Printed for R. Royston, Bookseller to His most Sacred Majesty. M DC LXXIII.

Non magna loquimur sed vivimus.

Cum clamore valido et lachrymis preces offerens exauditus est pro sua reverentia.

H. 7. 114

THE DEVOUT CHRISTIAN Instructed How to PRAY and give THANKS to GOD:

OR,

A Book of Devotions FOR FAMILIES:

AND

For Particular Persons IN

Most of the concerns of Humane Life.

By the Author of the CHRISTIAN SACRIFICE.

1 Thess. 5. 17. *Pray without ceasing.*
18. *In every thing give thanks.*

LONDON,
Printed for R. Royston, Bookseller to His most Sacred Majesty. M DC LXXIII.

TRINITY COLLEGE
LIBRARY
CAMBRIDGE

THE AUTHOR'S PREFACE.

I *Need not tell the well disposed Reader, there being so much said and writ continually in this Argument, how natural and necessary it is for all rational creatures, to look back upon all occasions to the Author of their being; that they may make him their hearty acknowledgements for all the benefits they have received from him, and still recommend themselves and all their concerns, to*

his continued Grace and good Providence. Nor ſhall I go about to ſhow how much the Publick Service of God in his own houſe, is to be preferred before the private Devotion of Families at home: there being no reaſon, as far as I underſtand, to make the latter neceſſary, but only becauſe, in moſt places, Chriſtian people cannot meet together, at the Church, every day Morning and Evening, to give to God the glory that is due unto his Name.

My buſineſs is to deſire him to remember, how natural it is likewiſe to all mankind to take ſuch good advice before-hand, when

when they have any petitions or thanks to prefer unto earthly gods, as that they may be delivered in a decent and grave form of words, as well as after a reverend manner: and to consider therefore, with what ſober and prudent care all thoſe expreſſions ought to be weighed, wherein they preſent the humble deſires and grateful affections of their hearts, to the moſt High God, the eternal Majeſty of heaven and earth.

It hath not proved I am ſure an honour to Religion, that men have learnt to be leſs ſolicitous about the one, than they are about the other. But ſuch have

been the licentious rambles of their fancy in sundrie Prayers, so bold and rude have their descriptions been of Almighty God, so raise their affirmations concerning him or concerning themselves, and so many untrue or doubtful things have they uttered; that it is sufficient, in my poor judgement, to blast the credit of that way of address to him, as it hath done, alas! with too many, the credit of Christian Piety, which hath suffered extreamly by such extravagance.

I know there are great numbers that will be ready to oppose me in this particular, with whom I list not to dispute in this short

Pre-

Preface. Let me only beseech them to use so much moderation, as not to discourage honest-hearted people from performing their duty to God, by disgracing any longer, as they have been wont to do, all Book-prayers. Which if they have not the advantage (as I think they have) of suddain conceptions and expressions, yet are so necessary in the Church, that without them many persons cannot pray at all. And I hope they will confess, upon due deliberation, that though some few may have attained an habit of uttering their desires freely, and becomingly upon any occasion, yet as the use of it before others is too apt to minister to pride, vain-

glory, and ſelf-conceit; ſo moſt people are ſo defective both in their conceptions and utterance, as not to be able to diſcharge this holy duty as they ought, without ſuch aſſiſtance as is here offered them.

How well I have performed what I have undertaken, I muſt leave to the judgement of others. I am ſure I have proceeded with deliberation; and ſtudied faithfully to avoid all affected expreſſions, fantaſtical alluſions, inſignificant allegories, pretended wit, and elegant converſions of ſentences, and raſh application of the holy Scripture to my preſent purpoſe: which have been the

vices

vices, perhaps, of some forms, though not so frequently, as well as of mens hasty inventions.

I have laboured also to gratifie the Reader with some variety; not because I think it is always best to use it, but because some weak and squeamish appetites will not be satisfied without it. And besides Prayers for Families, I have composed a great many other for particular persons; wherein if I have failed in the clearness and perspicuity of my expressions, it was much against my will: and being admonished of it by my friends, I will reform it, or any thing else that is amiss.

But

But the length, or the brevity of the Prayers ſure will not be accuſed, becauſe there are of both ſorts; that they who like not the one, may make uſe of the other.

Some, I doubt not, will complain that they find not a Prayer for ſome particular want of theirs, not here named; but that's a defect which could not be remedied. For I knew not where to ſtop, if I had extended my thoughts beyond thoſe neceſſities which are moſt common; and the reſt, I hope, may be reaſonably well ſupplied out of that which I have done to ſerve the other.

It is poſſible alſo that ſome may judge this whole Work to be but a needleſs labour: ſince they have the Book of Common Prayers *at hand, which they can uſe at home, as well as in the Church. With theſe perſons I ſhall not contend; but only deliver my opinion freely about this matter. Which is, that the reverence due to that Book will be beſt preſerved, by employing it only in the publick Divine Service; or in the private, where there is a Prieſt to officiate. However, the deſign of it is not to furniſh the people with Prayers, for all thoſe particular occaſions, wherein devout ſouls would make their requeſts to God.*

And

And the constant opinion of pious Divines, in this and in other Churches, we see, by their writings, hath been, to that other Book of Prayers, which they have composed, are necessary for the Flock of Christ, besides their publick Liturgie.

That which remains, is only to intreat those who will make use of this Book which is here tendered to them, First, to stirr up their hearts to offer their Praises, Thanksgivings, and Prayers unto God our heavenly Father, with fervent devotion of Spirit. And then, not to imagine the reading them out of a Book is any hindrance to De-

votion;

votion; but rather a considerable help, and much better than truſting the memory even with a form. For a mans mind hath nothing to do, when he hath the words before his eyes; but wholly to intend it ſelf, to the raiſing of its affections unto the greateſt height and ardency of deſire, and love, and joy, that it is able.

But take heed, I beſeech you, in the laſt place, leſt the performance of theſe holy duties, with ſome affection, deceive you into the neglect of all the reſt. Our Prayers will be fruitleſs, if they be not attended with our ſerious ſtudy and earneſt labour, to attain that which we beſeech God

to bestow upon us. And therefore with a sincere hatred of all sin, and a spirit armed with hearty resolution against it, invoke the Divine Grace for your assistance.

If you be true Christian Souldiers, that manfully fight under the banner of our Lord, *call to him for aid, with your weapons in your hand. With a mind bent to consider, desire God to enlighten you. And with an heart stored with the treasures of Divine Truth, beseech him to quicken and enliven you. And with close and urgent applications of them to your heart, entreat him to enable you to form and*

and shape your whole man, spirit, soul and body, according to them. For God is not hard to be entreated, since he entreats us to come to him, yea gives a great deal of his grace without asking: but it is the faintness or inconstancy of our endeavours to comply with his grace, and our own petitions, that makes them no more prevalent.

They that had no other Director, but the light of their own minds, saw this well enough, and were so sensible of this truth; that they were wont publickly to declaim (as we find in Aristides *his Oration to the* Rhodians *concerning Concord) against the*

absurd

absurd folly of those, who were perpetually importuning the Gods with their Prayers, but would do nothing for themselves; no, not those things which they knew the Gods had put in their power.

ἄτοπον τὰς θεὰς ἐνοχλεῖν, &c.

And in the same manner Demosthenes *in one of his* Philippicks, *chides the Greeks; comparing them to men,* who seeing great Hail-stones fall upon their heads, prayed that they might be preserved in safety; but would not run away to secure themselves from harm.

And therefore Clemens Alexandrinus

lexandrinus, *justly commends the wisdom of those, who made the Laws of the famous* Olympick *Combats: By which he that entred the lists, having for a long time before exercised his body to feats of activity, was ordered before he began to contend for the Prize, to stand right over against the Statue of* Jupiter, *and to say this Prayer.* O God; if I am in all regards duly fitted and prepared, as I ought, for this Combate; vouchsafe, in thy righteous judgement, to grant the victory to me. *Even so, saith he, may a man chearfully approach to God, who,* faithfully and with Lib. 7. Strom.

a good conſcience, doth all that he can both to learn his will, and to exerciſe himſelf in good works, that are pleaſing to him: for he ſhall have all that can be wiſht for the perfecting of his Salvation. Juſt as a Phyſician (*as he goes on*) reſtores health to thoſe, who cooperate with his medicines: ſo will God give his eternal ſalvation, to them who work together with him, both unto knowledge, and unto well doing.

As for thoſe who do not live well, it is plain, ſaith he in another place, that they do not ſo much as know what things

Lib. 6. Strom.

things are moſt profitable for themſelves. And if ſo, then it is manifeſt likewiſe that they cannot tell how to pray to God to receive good things from him, being ignorant of what is good. Or if they ſhould receive them, they would have no ſenſe at all of the gift, nor uſe it according to its worth and dignity; and that for the very ſame reaſon, becauſe they underſtand not its valne.

Inſpire therefore, O God of all Grace, I moſt humbly beſeech thee, both my heart and the hearts of all others who ſhall read this Book, with ſuch a godly

will

will, to endeavour zealouſly in all things to do what is well pleaſing in thy ſight; that we may comfortably expect the conſtant and powerful preſence of thy holy Spirit with us, to help us in the performance of our duty, till we have perfected holineſs in thy fear. And the ſincerity of that love to thee, which we profeſs in our Prayers, being teſtified by an unwearied obſervance of all thy commands; we may be able alſo to wait with an humble confidence for thy ſalvation: who haſt graciouſly promiſed to reward our weak and ſhort obedience

ence in this life, with inconceiveable and endless joys in a better World. *Amen.*

Imprimatur:

Sam. Parker *R^mo. in Christo Patri ac Domino, D^no.* Gilberto *Archiep. Cantuar. à Sac. Dom.*

Ex Ædib. Lambeth *Octob.* 21. 1672.

ER-

ERRATA.

PAge 41. line 8. read *abundant.* p. 50. l. 3. for *thou*, r. *the.* p. 51. l. 11. r. *consecrate.* p. 84. l. 9. r. *devote.* p. 92. l. 24. r. *children.* p. 135. penult. dele *to.* p. 258. l. 7. for *who*, r. *thou.* p. 265. l. 8. for *bountiful*, r. *beautiful.* p. 495. l. 8. r. *every one.*

PRAYERS

PRAYERS FOR FAMILIES.

On the LORD'S DAY In the MORNING.

ALmighty and Eternal God, the Lord of heaven and earth: we thy creatures are here proſtrate before thee, to expreſs our humble and grateful ſenſe of our dependence on thee; to honour thee with our Praiſes, and Thankſgivings, and an hearty oblation of our ſelves, our ſouls and bodies, to thy ſervice. We are unworthy, we confeſs, to be admitted to ſpeak unto thy Majeſty, nor

can our thoughts or words add any thing to thy greatneſs, happineſs and glory: but ſince thou art pleaſed in thy infinite goodneſs to do us the honour, not only to admit, but to invite our addreſſes unto thee, that our ſpirits may be bettered by lifting up themſelves to thee from whom we come, by meditating thy praiſes, by exciting our love, and paying our acknowledgements to thee; we moſt humbly and thankfully receive this thy great grace and favour towards us. Remembring withal, that it is but juſt and reaſonable we ſhould pay thee our vows which we made the laſt night, being ſo graciouſly raiſed up in ſoundneſs of body and mind, to ſee the light of this day, which our Saviour hath made, that we may be glad and rejoyce therein.

We laud and magnifie therefore thy moſt holy Name, thy infinite Power, Wiſdom and Bounty; which all the world proclaims with the

higheſt

higheſt praiſes. We bleſs thee in behalf of all thy creatures, as well as of our ſelves (to whom thou haſt *given dominion over the works of thy hands*) for the *eyes of all look unto thee, and thou giveſt them their meat in due ſeaſon. Thou openeſt thy hand, and ſatisfieſt the deſire of every living thing.* Pſal. 145. 16. But above all we acknowledge thy ineſtimable benefits beſtowed upon mankind in Chriſt Jeſus, the Son of thy Love, whom thou waſt pleaſed, in thy infinite mercy, to ſend among us in our own likeneſs; to aſſure us of thy good will towards us, and to inſtruct us in our duty towards thee, and to give us hope of no leſs than immortal life, by patient continuance in well doing.

We remember with all thankfulneſs his miraculous Birth, at which the Angels rejoyced; his moſt holy Life; his bitter Agony, and bloudy Death; his glorious Reſurrection upon this day from the grave; his

Aſcenſion into the heavens, to ſit on the right hand of the Majeſty on high; his Triumph over all the powers of darkneſs; and his Sovereign Dominion over all Angels, Authorities and Powers, whom thou haſt made ſubject to him. O God, how great was thy love to the ſinful ſons of men! which moved thee to paſs by ſuch innumerable offences, whereby they had provoked thy ſevereſt diſpleaſure. How great was that love! which hath honoured our mortal nature with ſo high a glory; and committed the care of our immortal ſouls to one ſo mighty to ſave, and ſo full of kindneſs, and moſt tender charity toward us. O the greatneſs of thy love! which hath choſen us to be thy ſons and heirs, together with Chriſt Jeſus; and ſet ſuch an high Prieſt over thy houſe and family, to make interceſſion for us, to diſpenſe all divine bleſſings to us, and ſend forth Angels themſelves to

1 Pet. 3. ult.

to be *miniſtring ſpirits for them who ſhall be heirs of ſalvation.* Who can underſtand the exceeding riches of thy grace in ſending the holy Ghoſt to be a witneſs of our Saviours Reſurrection and Exaltation; and to make us *abound in hope*, that we ſhall be one day raiſed from the dead, and carried to heaven, and keep a perpetual reſt, after our ſhort labours here, with our bleſſed Lord and Maſter, in his eternal glory? Heb. 1. ult. Rom. 15. 13.

O that we could begin it this day, in devout Meditations of theſe things, in unſpeakable joy and ſatisfaction of heart in the aſſured hope and expectation of them, and in bleſſing and praiſing thee, who haſt given us ſuch good hope, and everlaſting conſolation. Lift up our minds, we pray thee, this morning, above all theſe little things here below, which are apt to diſtract our thoughts, and turn away our eyes from that hea-

venly bliſs. And keep them above in the ſerious contemplation of it; till we be in love with it, and our hearts be fully bent and reſolved to ſeek it every day in thoſe ways wherein Jeſus hath gone before us, though it ſhould be with the loſs of all that we here poſſeſs. It is but meet and fit that we ſhould wholly quit our own will, and devote our ſelves to follow thine; eſpecially ſince thou haſt ſhown ſuch unuſual kindneſs towards us, as, if we had been innocent, we durſt not have preſumed to expect from thee.

We are aſham'd, O Lord, to think that ever we have diſobeyed thee, to whom we ſtand ſo deeply indebted, both as we are thy creatures, and as we are redeemed by the precious bloud of thy Son Jeſus. It grieves us, that we have tranſgreſſed any of thy righteous and good Laws, by which it is our happineſs as well as our duty to be govern'd. We abhorr the thoughts of ever breaking them

them any more: beſeeching not only thy gracious pardon, but thy acceptance of our intire reſolution to agree with thy Will in all things, for the time to come. We here again moſt ſolemnly dedicate all the powers of our ſouls and bodies to thy ſervice: deſiring unfeignedly that all the thoughts and deſigns of our minds, all the affections and paſſions of our hearts, and all the actions of our life and converſation may be pure, holy and unreproveable in thy ſight.

For which end we moſt humbly implore the aſſiſtance of thy good ſpirit, which our Lord hath incouraged us to hope thou wilt give to thoſe, that ask and ſeek it with their whole heart. O let thy mercy be upon us according to thy word, according as our hope is in thee, and our hearts ſincerely and ſtedfaſtly ſet to keep thy Commandments. *Search us, O God, and know our hearts: try us,* Pſal. 139. 23, 24.

us, and know our thoughts. And see if there be any way of wickedneſs in us, and lead us in the way everlaſting. Fill our minds with awful and reverend thoughts of thee, as our Sovereign Lord and Judge. Settle in us an immutable love to thee; and the higheſt eſteem of thy favour and grace, as better than life itſelf. That ſo we may ſtudy above all things to approve our very hearts, and all our actions to thee; and feel the ſenſe of thy acceptance of us, giving us greater pleaſure, than all the world can afford us. Make it our delight to praiſe thee, to call to mind thy loving kindneſs, to offer to thee the ſacrifice of thankſgiving, and to meditate on thy pretious promiſes. Help us to *take heed to our ſelves, leſt our hearts* Luk. 21. 34. *be at any time overcharged with ſurfeiting and drunkenneſs, and the* inordinate *cares of this* Heb. 13. 5. *life: To have our converſation without covetouſneſs, and to be*

con-

content with such things as we have: To possess our bodies in sanctification and honour: 1 Thess. 4. 4.
To love our neighbours as our selves; And as we would that others should do to us, to do even so to them: To live peaceably, as much as in us lyeth, with all men: Rom. 13. 9. Matth. 7. 12. Rom. 12. 18.
To put on the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit: To take those who have spoken in the name of our Lord, for an example of suffering affliction, and of patience: 1 Pet. 3. 4. Jam. 5. 10.
And when we suffer as Christians, not to be ashamed, but to glorifie thee our God on this behalf. 1 Pet. 4. 16.

And accept, good Lord, of all the praises and acknowledgements of all thy people met this day together, according to thy Will: and assist us to render thee still more hearty and affectionate praises, in that holy Assembly, to which we are going to joyn our selves. O that

all people on the face of the earth were united together, likewiſe, in one body to ſhew forth thy praiſe. O that thy way were known upon earth; thy ſaving health among all Nations. And that all Chriſtian Kings eſpecially, may be filled with thy holy Spirit; and think it their Crown and their Glory, to be the devout worſhippers and faithful ſubjects of the Lord Jeſus, the King of kings, and the Lord of lords. *O that thy prieſts may be cloathed with righteouſneſs, and thy Saints ſhout aloud for joy.* That all who are in diſtreſs and miſery may rejoyce alſo, in hope that all afflictions ſhall turn to their good, and *afterwards yield the peaceable fruit of righteouſneſs.*

Pſal. 132. 9.

Heb. 12. 11.

O Lord, hear us; and make thy face to ſhine upon thy ſervants: that *we may enter into thy gates with thankſgiving, and into thy courts with praiſe: that we may be thankful unto thee, and bleſs thy Name.*

For

For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting: and his truth endureth to all generations. 100. 4, 5.

Our Father, &c.

At Night.

O Lord most high; the Holy One, who inhabiteſt Eternity, who only haſt immortality, and art moſt bleſſed in thy own incomprehenſible perfections. Thou art to be feared and loved, and worſhipped and praiſed, by us and all reaſonable creatures, who have any knowledge; how great, how mighty, how wiſe and merciful thou art. All thy works praiſe thee, O Lord, and we more eſpecially ought to bleſs thee; whom thou haſt made to underſtand thy moſt adorable excellencies, which are far beyond the higheſt of all our thoughts. And we have yet

a more particular obligation to thee, for thy marvailous love in Chriſt Jeſus, whom thou haſt ſent in great humility to viſit us, who are but duſt and aſhes; to make his abode among us; to teſtifie thy great love to us; and aſſure us of thy good will, notwithſtanding our many offences; and to make us *exceeding great and precious promiſes*, to invite us to approach thee, and to incourage our obedience to thee. We thank thee that he hath ſealed them with his bloud; and thou haſt confirmed them by his Reſurrection, and Aſcenſion, and the coming of the holy Ghoſt; & that thou haſt given us ſo many happy opportunities to acquaint our ſelves with the truth and purity of the Chriſtian Religion: which comforts us in this ſtate of mortality and miſery, with the bleſſed hope of eternal life.

Bleſſed be thy goodneſs for that great conſolation; and that thou haſt ſhown us the way to it by his doctrine and example; and aſſured

us

us of the aſſiſtance of thy holy Spirit to inable us to follow after him, to that glory which he poſſeſſes. Bleſſed be thy goodneſs, that we have felt it ſo often in our minds and hearts; inſpiring us with holy thoughts, exciting in us devout affections and godly reſolutions, filling us with Divine Joys, and with comfortable expectations of the glory that ſhall be revealed. We thank thee, that thou haſt permitted us this day to attend upon thee, together with our Chriſtian Brethren, in the publick Duties of thy Worſhip and Service. And that there we have received any good inſtructions, any holy exhortations, and Chriſtian incouragements, to proceed and go forward in the courſe of well doing: and have begun in any meaſure that eternal reſt, which we wait for with all the faithful, when we ſhall praiſe, and thank, and love thee our heavenly Father, better than we can do now, whilſt we are in theſe frail

frail bodies, and abſent from the Lord.

We can do no leſs than offer up again our ſouls and bodies to thee, to be order'd and govern'd by thy bleſſed Will, and not our own: that ſo we may be every day more prepared for that happy ſtate, and draw nearer and nearer in the diſpoſition and temper of our ſpirits, to that immortal bleſſedneſs. It is our ſatisfaction, our ſecurity, the eaſe and joy of our hearts, to be under the conduct of thy unerring wiſdom; to follow thy counſels, and to be determined in all things by thy holy Will: who art ſo good, and haſt given us ſuch large demonſtrations of thy abundant kindneſs and good will to us, as will not let us diſtruſt thy tender care of us; whatſoever it is thou wouldeſt have us do or ſuffer in this world. O God, purifie our minds and thoughts more perfectly, that we may never conceive amiſs of thee; but have right apprehenſions

henſions in all things: and all our paſſions and affections likewiſe, that we may intirely love thee; and rejoyce in being beloved of thee; and humbly confide in thee; and abſolutely reſign our ſelves to thee; and be filled with conſtant devotion towards thee, our Almighty Creator, and moſt merciful Redeemer. Poſſeſs our hearts with ſuch a lively ſenſe of our relation to thee in both reſpects, and of the honour thou haſt done us in preferring us ſo much above the reſt of our fellow creatures; that we may ever behave our ſelves ſuitably to the dignity of our Nature, and of our Religion.

O that we may never degenerate into a baſe and unworthy love of any thing here below: nor be oppreſſed with the burden of the cares of this life: nor ſink under the weight of any affliction: nor be vainly puffed up with the greateſt fulneſs of earthly goods, if thou art pleaſed to beſtow

ſtow them on us. But aſſiſt us with thy grace, to *abhor that which is evil, and cleave to that which is good.* Diſpoſe us to a diſcreet and temperate uſe of all the pleaſures of this world. Indue us with true modeſty and humility of ſpirit, that we may *not think of our ſelves more highly than we ought to think; but think ſoberly, according to the meaſure which thou haſt dealt unto us.* Keep us from being *wiſe in our own conceits:* and inable us ſo to order our ſelves, that *our moderation may be known to all men.* Make us *kindly affectioned one to another in brotherly love:* To delight in doing good; *to ſhew all meekneſs to all men: To render to all their dues: Tribute to whom tribute is due, cuſtom to whom cuſtom, fear to whom fear, honour to whom honour: and to owe no man any thing, but to love one another.* Make us ſo happy, that we

Rom. 12. 9.

Rom. 12. 3, 10, 16.

Phil. 4. 5.

Tit. 3. 2.

Rom. 13. 7, 8.

may

may be able to *love our enemies, to bleſs thoſe that curſe us, to do good to them that hate us, to rejoyce with them that do rejoyce, and weep with them that weep.* Matth. 5.44. Rom. 12.15. Compoſe our ſpirits to a quiet and ſteady dependence on thy good providence; that we may not *take* too much *thought for our life, nor be careful for any thing: but by prayer and ſupplication with thankſgiving, ſtill make known our requeſts to thee our God.* Matth. 6.25. Phil. 4.6. And help us *to pray always, and not faint: In every thing to give thanks, and offer up the ſacrifice of praiſe continually: To paſs the time of our ſojourning here in fear: To believe thoſe things which we do not ſee, and to rejoyce in hope of thy glory: To poſſeſs our ſouls in patience: And to learn in whatſoever ſtate we are, therewith to* Luk. 18. 1. 1 Theſſ. 5. 18. Heb. 13. 15. 1 Pet. 1. 17. Rom. 5. 2. Luk. 21. 19. Phil. 4. 11, 12.

be

be content: Make us *know both how to be abaſed, and how to abound: every-where, and in all things inſtruct us, both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to ſuffer need: being inabled to do all things through Chriſt which ſtrengtheneth us.* That we feeling the joys of uprightneſs and integrity of heart; our Religion may be the greateſt comfort and pleaſure to us, and we our ſelves an ornament to our Religion.

O that we could alway by an innocent, good and uſeful life, commend the Doctrine of God, our Saviour, to thoſe who converſe with us: And that the light of all Chriſtians did ſo ſhine before men, that others beholding their good works, might be moved to glorifie thee, and heartily to believe on the Lord Jeſus. Send forth thy Light and thy Truth into all the dark corners of the Earth: That *all kings may fall down before him, and all nations ſerve him.*

Pſal. 72. 11, 12, 13, 14.

And

And indue them whom thou haſt placed in ſuch high Authority over others with that divine Spirit which was in him: that they may *deliver the needy when he cryeth; the poor alſo, and him that hath no helper. That they may ſpare the poor and needy, and ſave and redeem their ſoul from deceit and violence: and their blood may be precious in their ſight.*

Bleſs theſe Kingdoms wherein we live; and as thou haſt long continued to us the knowledge of thy Truth: ſo give us grace to bring forth fruit becoming the Goſpel; that thou mayſt not cut us down as barren trees, which cumber the ground. Lord, ſave the King, and eſtabliſh his Throne in righteouſneſs, that we may ſee many happy days under his government: and be *comforted now after the time that thou haſt plagued us; and for the years wherein we have ſuffered adverſity.* Pſal. 90. 15. Proſper the pious endeavours of all thoſe, that faithfully

fully ſeed and inſtruct thy people; and increaſe the number of them. O that the ſeed which hath been ſown this day, may take deep root in all our hearts, and bring forth fruit abundantly: that being not *forgetful hearers, but doers of the work, we may be all bleſſed in our deed.* Help us in all the week following, to *ſet a watch before our mouth; and to keep the door of our lips.* Preſerve us that our *heart incline not to any evil thing, to practiſe wicked works, with men that work iniquity:* but we may be always *followers of that which is good; and as we have received how we ought to walk and pleaſe thee our God, ſo we may abound more and more.*

Jam. 1.25,26.

Pſal. 141.3,4.

1 Pet. 3.13.

1 Theſſ. 4.1.

Protect us, we beſeech thee, and all our friends every where, this night. Grant us quiet and undiſturbed reſt and ſleep: and awaken in the morning theſe good thoughts and

and desires again in our hearts; *that the words of our Saviour may abide in us, and we in him*; till we come to endless life together with him; by whom we are incouraged thus to address our selves unto thee, and to continue to pray, as he hath taught us in his holy Gospel, saying, Joh. 15. 7.

Our Father, &c.

A shorter form of Prayer for the Lords day *Morning.*

O Most holy & eternally Blessed. *The heaven, and the heaven of heavens is thine, the earth also with all that therein is.* Deut. 10. 14. Thou art every where, and canst not be excluded from any place: but art present to the greatest secrets of our souls, and seest the closest and most retired thoughts of our hearts. Thou knowest very well with what designs

deſigns and affections we now bow our ſelves before thee, and canſt not be deceived by any words that we are able to ſpeak in thy praiſe, whilſt our hearts are far from thy fear and love.

Behold, O Lord, our hearts are full with deſires to be poſſeſſed with a mighty reverend ſenſe of thee, and all the benefits thou haſt beſtowed on us: and to be lifted up to heaven in love to thee, and joy in thee, whilſt we bleſs and praiſe thee, and ſpeak good of thy Name. We here remember with all humility and thankfulneſs, that thou art our Creator. And acknowledge thy care and providence over thy ancient people in bleſſing and ſanctifying a day, wherein thou thy ſelf reſtedſt from thy works, that they might ceaſe from all other imployments; and admire thy wonderful works, extol thy power, bleſs thy goodneſs, and be aſtoniſhed at thy wiſdom, in making, preſerving, a-

adorning and governing this excellent frame of the world. *The heavens declare thy glory, O God, and the firmament ſheweth thy handy-work.* The Sun, the Moon, and all the hoſt of Heaven proclaim the greatneſs and ſplendor of thy Majeſty. The *whole earth is full of thy rich goodneſs: ſo is the great and wide ſea, wherein are things moving innumerable, both ſmall and great living creatures.* Pſal. 104, 24. There is nothing but what ſpeaks of thee; and above all, the children of men, whom thou haſt wonderfully made, and curiouſly wrought, and impreſſed with thine own Image; that they might underſtand thee, and love thee, in all and above all things.

The variety, the order, the ſtedfaſtneſs of all thy works in this great world, abundantly utter thy adorable perfections. But thou, O Lord, by thy goodneſs in giving thy Son for us, and then raiſing him up from the dead, and ſetting him at thy right hand

hand, haſt given us new matter of wonder and praiſe; and conſecrated a better reſt and holy-day of rejoycing; wherein we ſhould behold the glories of another world, and have before our eyes the happineſs thou intendeſt for us there, together with all the excellent means which lead unto it. Thou giveſt us occaſion not only to reflect upon all the good things thou haſt provided for our bodies; (which we can never acknowledge enough; the very health and eaſe of one day deſerving the thankfulneſs of many) but we muſt alſo remember, that we are thy redeemed ones, and that thou haſt done great things for our ſouls in thy Son Jeſus, who is entred into the heavens for us, and gone to prepare a reſting place for all thoſe that follow him. This exceeding riches of thy grace infinitely ſurpaſſes all our acknowledgements; ſince all the praiſes we are able to render thee, are leſs than is due for thy tem-

temporal bleſſings. To this love we owe the knowledge of thee, the true and only God; our freedom from Idolatry, and a vain converſation; the true principles of holy living; the benefit of repentance; the promiſe of a pardon; the aſſiſtance of thy holy Spirit; the miniſtry of thy Angels; the hope of immortal life; and the pledges our Lord hath left us of his endleſs love. To this we owe thy forbearance in the days of our ignorance; thy unwearied patience towards us in a continued rebellion; and thy earneſt intreaties of us, when we were paſſionately bent upon our own deſtruction. Thou haſt ſent us, in much love, many holy Inſtructors and guides to bleſſedneſs. We have had the benefit of ſundry pious Sermons, good Examples, wholeſome admonitions, and ſerious counſels, of the power of the Holy Ghoſt, and divers reſtraints of fear, and ſhame, and love: and thou ſtill purſueſt us with thy merciful kind-

neſs, and beſeecheſt us to attend to thy call, and receive thy bleſſings, and make thee our choice, and be eternally happy in thy Divine favour and likeneſs. What ſhall we render to the Lord for all his benefits towards us?

O help us to manifeſt our real and unfeigned deſires to make ſome worthy returns to thee, by our careful improvement of the holy opportunity which thou this day putteſt into our hands. O that our minds may be more inlightned to underſtand the truth, as it is in Jeſus; that our wills may be more ſteadfaſtly reſolved to cleave unto it; that our affections may be excited to a ſtronger and more ardent love to thee, and to a greater delight in thee; and all the powers of our ſouls diſpoſed to ſerve thee at all other times, more cheerfully and readily, in all the Duties of Piety, Soberneſs, Righteouſneſs and Mercy. So that every day may become an holy reſt

to

o the Lord, by ceasing to do evil, nd constantly doing well: and we ay glorifie thee throughout our whole life; in all our actions *shewing forth thy praises, who hast called us out of darkness into thy marvailous light*, according to thy abundant mercy in Christ Jesus. By whom thou hast given us good hope in thee, that thou wilt hear our prayers, and do for us above all that we can ask or think; which we humbly beg in those holy words, which he hath taught us, saying, 1 Pet. 2. 9.

Our Father, &c.

Another at Night.

O Most blessed for evermore; the Father of Mercies, and the God of all Comfort. *How precious are thy thoughts to us ward? how*

great is the ſum of them? Thou reneweſt thy favours continually, and art ſtill pouring upon us innumerable benefits: of which this is not the leaſt, that thou giveſt us leave to come into thy preſence, to call thee Father, and to make known our requeſts to thee, by prayer and ſupplication with thankſgiving. We accept, O Lord, with all thankfulneſs this thy great grace and loving kindneſs to us: and are here again proſtrate before thee this evening to acknowledge thy goodneſs in making us ſuch excellent creatures; capable to know thee, and acknowledge thee, and love thee, and by being made like thee, to be eternally happy with thee.

Bleſſed be thy name, that we are now alive; and that we have lived ſo long in health, and ſtrength, and peace, and plenty of all good things: whereas our eyes might have been conſumed with grief, our bones ſore vexed, and we might have mingled

mingled our drink with continual weeping. We are bound unto thee for the free uſe of our underſtandings; for the good inclinations we find in our wills; for any devout affections which are ſtirring in our hearts; for all the advantages we have had by our education, good company, and holy examples: And more eſpecially for the illuminations of the holy Ghoſt by thy bleſſed Goſpel; the breathings of it frequently into our ſpirits; the importunities thou haſt uſed to draw us to thee; and the great and precious promiſes whereby thy love in Chriſt Jeſus conſtrains us to reſign our ſelves intirely to the obedience of thy Precepts.

We ought likewiſe to admire and praiſe thee, for thy goodneſs to all thy creatures, who live daily upon thy bounteous allowance. *The eyes of all wait on thee, and thou giveſt them their food in due ſeaſon.* Pſal. 145. Thou diffuſeſt thy bleſ-

ſings in ſeveral ſtreams to every one of them, according to their needs.

104. 28. *That thou giveſt them, they gather: thou openeſt thy hand, they are filled with good.* We give thee the glory of the plentiful proviſion thou haſt made for them: and more particularly admire thy great liberality to the children of men; under whoſe feet thou haſt put in ſubjection, *all ſheep and oxen, yea and the beaſts of the field, the fowl of the air, and the fiſh of the ſea, and whatſoever paſſeth through the paths of the waters.* O Lord, we praiſe thee for thy goodneſs to thoſe who praiſe thee not themſelves. Be thou adored and acknowledged in thy bounty, which beſtows ſo many bleſſings unasked and unſought; and continues them notwithſtanding abundance of provocations, and moſt high offence that they have given to thy merciful kindneſs.

And let thy goodneſs to thy Church

Church be never forgotten by us, which thou haſt in all ages protected and defended: in a marvailous manner propagating the Goſpel of our Saviour, confounding its oppoſers, and ſpreading it by the power of the holy Ghoſt over the face of the earth. We thank thee for thy ſingular favour to theſe Countries wherein we live. To whom theſe glad tydings of Salvation have reached; and who have long enjoyed a more glorious light than many other places; and been delivered from the darkneſs of Popiſh ſuperſtition, and from ſundry attemps that have been made to bereave us of this happineſs; and are again ſettled after many confuſions in a peaceable enjoyment of thy true Religion: which thou haſt alſo continued to us, though we have not brought forth fruit worthy of the Goſpel of thy Grace.

O that all thy undeſerved goodneſs may have this effect upon us;

to make us heartily love thee, and devoutly worſhip thee; and zealouſly obey thee, and ſteadfaſtly truſt and hope in thee for ever. That by a careful improvement of *the knowledge of thee our God, and our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, by whom thou haſt given us all things that pertain unto life and godlineſs*; we may ſtill enjoy this ineſtimable treaſure, and all thy love to us may at laſt be finiſhed in thoſe eternal joys, which he hath promiſed to the faithful. And as we have been taught, exhorted and incouraged this day out of thy holy word; and have likewiſe publickly acknowledged our obligations to thee, and made profeſſion of love, and gratitude, and dutifulneſs to thy Divine Majeſty: So help us all the week following openly to teſtifie the truth and honeſty of our hearts, in all this, by a blameleſs converſation; in all humility, meekneſs, temperance, righteouſneſs, charity and peace, *with all them*

that

that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

Bleſs our Soveraign, the Defender of the Faith we profeſs; and all imployed under him, in their ſeveral offices: that they may be inſtruments of continuing to us theſe holy opportunities; with all other good things that may make theſe Kingdoms happy. O that all our Friends may be thine: and if we have any enemies, Father, forgive them. Comfort and ſupport the ſick, the needy, and all other diſtreſſed perſons, with an immoveable belief of thy wiſe and good providence: to which give them grace patiently and obediently to reſign themſelves. And when all our ſenſes this night ſhall be bound up with ſleep, be thou, O Lord, our keeper: and after the refreſhment of that repoſe, and this holy reſt from our labours, raiſe us in the morning to return unto them with cheerful minds, and ready wills; praiſing ſtill

and magnifying thy multiplyed mercies to us in Chriſt Jeſus, by whom we preſent our ſelves and petitions to thee: ſaying further, as he hath taught us.

Our Father, &c.

Another for the Afternoon, or any other time of that day.

O Moſt Holy, Glorious and Bleſſed. Thy Name is excellent in all the earth; and thou art for ever praiſed by all the hoſt of heaven, who are never weary of thy ſervice. We thy creatures, ſinful duſt and aſhes, have many times profeſſed it is our happineſs, to joyn with thoſe heavenly inhabitants in admiring, worſhipping, bleſſing and loving thee, the great Lord of all; with pure hearts, in unity of ſpirit, ſincere friendſhip, and brotherly ac-

accord one with another. We have often ſpoken great things of thee; and declared thy ſervice to be the ſweeteſt pleaſure, and one hour ſpent in holy meditations, devout affections, and cheerful thankſgivings, to be far better than all the time we ſpend in other imployments. How much then, if we mean ſincerely, and according to our words, ſhould our hearts rejoyce that we may ſpend a day in thy Courts, & are invited to a longer attendance on thy divine Majeſty, in the duties of thy worſhip and ſervice. We are aſhamed that any wearineſs ſhould ſeize on our ſpirits; and that it ſhould be irkſome to us, to renew our thoughts and acknowledgements of thy infinite goodneſs. Behold, O Lord, we are reſolved again to addreſs our ſelves unto thee with praiſe and thankſgiving, for giving us ſuch opportunities to look back to thee, the Author of our being; to lift up our ſouls towards our heavenly

Country;

Country; and unite them to the firſt and chiefeſt good; from whence we derive whatſoever we have, or hope to enjoy. Beſeeching thee to help us to draw near unto thee, with hearts full of wonder at thy incomprehenſible Majeſty; full of love to thy moſt wiſe and Almighty goodneſs; full of thankfulneſs for thy benefits; full of deſires to be what thou wouldſt have us; and full of joy that thou wouldſt have us be ſo happy, in being made thy children, partakers of a Divine Nature, and heirs of immortal life.

We admire thy glory, O great Lord of heaven and earth, which ſhines in the whole Creation; thy greater glory in the work of our redemption, by the miraculous Birth, Life, Death, and Reſurrection of Chriſt Jeſus; and the greateſt of all, which we hope and wait for at his appearing, when he *ſhall come to be admired in his Saints, and glorified in all them that believe.* Thou haſt done

done great things for us already: thou haſt promiſed to do greater: and thou art daily performing thy promiſes, and preparing us for the accompliſhment of them all, in the higheſt bleſſedneſs. O God of all grace, make us wiſer Stewards, than we have been, of thy manifold gifts and graces, which we are intruſted withal. Help us carefully to huſband this ſacred opportunity which thou continueſt to us, to the beſt advantage of our immortal ſouls. Gather in our thoughts from our ordinary buſineſs. Fix them on thy ſelf; and hold them in the contemplation of thy infinite mercies, and of thoſe divine Truths which repreſent our duty, and thy exceeding love and kindneſs towards us. Chaſe away all worldly affections, and over-awe our ſpirits with a ſenſe of thy divine preſence; that by ſerving thee with a religious reverence this day, we may be diſpoſed to walk in thy fear all the reſt of our lives: Having a grate-

grateful remembrance of thy benefits; a deep and ſerious reflection upon our own reſolutions, and thy gracious promiſes; an holy jealouſie over our ſelves, leſt we ſhould be unfaithful to them; and a pious care in all things to approve our ſelves the conſtant and diligent ſervants of the Lord Jeſus.

O that our thankfulneſs, and good affections, and zealous deſires, may not end with our prayers, nor conclude with this day: But we may be poſſeſſed with ſuch a ſtrong and habitual ſenſe of thee, and of our obligations to thee; that we may every day earneſtly and heartily ſerve thee in all the actions of Chriſtian piety, and be unwearied in well doing unto the concluſion of our lives.

A-

Another.

O Moſt holy, great and glorious Majeſty of heaven and earth. To whom all the bleſſed company above do, with the higheſt admiration and love, give continual praiſe, and thanks, and honour, and worſhip, and obedience; acknowledging thou art above all that they are able to ſpeak of thee, or aſcribe and render to thee. Much more art thou exalted above the thoughts of ſuch poor mortals as we, who are clothed with fleſh, and live far remote from the throne of thy glory. And yet, ſuch is thy goodneſs, thou condeſcendeſt to admit, nay, to draw us to a fellowſhip with thoſe holy ſpirits; that we may thereby be made happy, and called thy ſervants, though, when we have done the beſt we can, very unprofitable.

What is man that thou art mindful of him? what are the ſons of men

men that thou doſt at all conſider them? Thou haſt crowned us with glory and honour here below, and raiſed us to a Dominion over the works of thy hands. Thou haſt indued us with underſtandings to know thee, and with wills to love thee; whoſe moſt excellent wiſdom, Almighty power, and ſurpaſſing goodneſs, we diſcover in all thy works of wonder. But what is ſinful man, that thou ſhouldeſt ſo much regard him, as to ſend after him, to ſeek and ſave him, when he was loſt? Lord! what grace was this, that thou ſhouldeſt vouchſafe to ſpeak with us, and communicate any thing of thy mind to ſuch forgetful and ungrateful wretches? But that thou ſhouldſt ſpeak to us by thy Son, and declare thy mind in ſuch words of grace and favour, and publiſh ſuch kind intentions towards us, and recover us with ſo much coſt, and purchaſe us to thy ſelf with the precious bloud of thy

Son

Son Jeſus, and ſend thy holy Spirit to purifie us; that we might have thy Image renewed in us, and be made fit ſociety for thy ſelf again, and reſtored to immortal life: Lord! how much doth it exceed all belief, hadſt thou not given us, in tender mercy, ſuch abundance aſſurance of it? We have thoſe reaſons to bleſs thee, which the Angels have not. We muſt admire thee, not only as the great Creator and Preſerver of all things; which we heartily do, and give thee the glory of all thy marvailous works: but alſo as the Redeemer of mankind out of a forlorn condition, by the manifeſtation of thy ſelf in our fleſh, by the bloud of thy Son, the conſtant breathings of the holy Ghoſt, the light of thy Goſpel, and an unwearied patience, which hath waited on us, and propounded to us no leſs happineſs, than to ſit together in heavenly places in Chriſt Jeſus; who is advanced far above all prin-

principalities and powers, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but in that alſo which is to come.

We praiſe thee, O God; we magnifie thy moſt holy Name; we confeſs our ſelves bound to thee, above all other creatures, that we have any knowledge of: for we are twice thy creatures; and thou haſt a double title to all we have. O ſtir up all that is within us to bleſs thee, and love thee, and offer up the ſacrifice of thankſgiving to thee. Fill our hearts with joy and gladneſs, that we have another opportunity, wherein to recount thy mercies to us; to be further inſtructed in thy mind and will declared by our Saviour; and to be under the comfortable influences of heaven, to cheriſh thoſe holy thoughts, affections, and reſolutions which are begun in us, and to promote our growth and increaſe in all wiſdom, goodneſs and vertue. Poſſeſs us with ſuch a ſtrong

ſenſe

ſenſe of thy continued love towards us; that we may teſtifie our true and hearty thankfulneſs for it, by attentive conſideration of all that we hear out of thy holy Word; and by laying it up in our hearts; and eſteeming it more than the greateſt treaſures of this World; and endeavouring every day to have our converſation as becometh the Goſpel of Chriſt. That ſo our praiſes being not meerly words, but real deeds, and all the fruits of righteouſneſs; we may be bleſſed in our deed, and at laſt hear our Lord ſpeaking to us in thoſe gracious words, *Come ye bleſſed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the beginning of the world.* Amen.

A Prayer for the Morning when there is a Communion.

O Moſt holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty; the Father of mercies, the God of peace and comfort: by whoſe power we, and all things elſe, were created, and by whoſe good providence we are all preſerved and maintain'd. Be thou eternally bleſſed and praiſed, worſhipped and ſerved, with the moſt ardent love, who haſt made mankind ſo like to thy ſelf, and ordered ſo many of thy creatures to ſerve us, and choſen rather to make us anew, and *create us* again *in Chriſt Jeſus unto good works*, than let us be undone by our ſhameful diſobedience to thee. For thou *haſt ſent thy only begotten Son into the world* (adored be thy inconceiveable love) *that whoſoever believeth in him might not periſh, but have everlaſting life.* And

Ephes. 2. 10.

Joh. 3. 16.

he

he hath laid down his life for that end, and redeemed us by his bloud from the hands of our enemies; and triumphed over them all moſt gloriouſly; and in token thereof aſcended into heaven; and poſſeſſed the Crown of immortal Life, and ſat down at thy right hand, and obtained dominion over Angels, and Men and all Creatures.

We have felt the bleſſed fruits of his Death, and Reſurrection, and Royal Power, whereby *he is able to ſave to the uttermoſt all them that come to thee by him.* Heb. 7.25. Thy holy Spirit hath breathed often into our hearts: we have been inſtructed in the Goſpel of thy grace: and thy Servants, the Miniſters of thy Word, have not ceaſed to call upon us, yea, to importune us, to follow after our Saviour, to that heavenly bliſs in which he lives. And now again thou vouchſafeſt to us an happy opportunity to improve our ſelves in Chriſtian Wiſdom, Devotion,

votion and holineſs; and we have received thy kind invitations to the neareſt approaches to thy divine Majeſty.

O fill us, we pray thee, with a lively and ſtrong ſenſe of thy bounteous goodneſs, which hath been ſo many ways expreſſed towards us. Fill us with pious diſpoſitions to receive more of it, according to thy precious promiſes in Chriſt Jeſus. Stirr up in us ſuch thankful acknowledgements to thee, ſuch hearty reſolutions to obey thee, ſuch earneſt deſires and longings to partake more and more of thy divine Nature, ſuch love, delight, and joy in well doing; that our ſouls may be lifted up above, to that glorious place where our dear Saviour is; and we may comfortably expect, and be truly prepared for, a bleſſed tranſlation thither at the great day of his appearing.

Our great unfruitfulneſs, we confeſs, in the knowledge of Chriſt, may

may juſtly make thee deny thy gracious influences from heaven upon us. But, O God of all grace, who multiplyeſt mercy, and delighteſt in doing good, pardon us and make us better, both at once. Quicken our ſouls to hear thy holy Word with greater fear and reverence; to ſing thy praiſes with greater cheerfulneſs and gladneſs; to pray to thee with more earneſt affection and ſteadineſs of mind; to approach to thy holy Table, with the deepeſt humility and devotion of ſpirit; and to receive the renewed pledges of thy love, to our very great increaſe in Faith, and Hope, and Love to thee, and to all the world: That ſo this may be a good day to our ſouls, and we may be diſpoſed and enabled to ſpend the reſt of our days better, as becomes the redeemed of the Lord, who have taſted how gracious he is, and who have received the earneſt of eternal life. O that our converſation may be in heaven,

by

by the conſtant love and exerciſe of purity, righteouſneſs, mercy and godlineſs: That we ever ſtudying to glorifie thee, our heavenly Father, by bearing much of this good fruit, may have the more aſſured hope, that thou wilt glorifie us with thy ſelf.

And inſpire, we beſeech thee, the hearts of all others that meet together this day, to magnifie thy great and glorious Name, with the like religious affections towards thee: That we may all *preſent our ſelves a living ſacrifice, holy, acceptable unto thee, which is our reaſonable ſervice.*

Rom. 12. 1.

Help us all to *put on (as thy elect children holy and beloved) bowels of mercies, kindneſs, humbleneſs of mind, meekneſs, long-ſuffering; forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel againſt any; even as Chriſt forgave us, ſo incline us alſo to do. And above all theſe things*

Coloſſ. 3. 10, 11, &c.

hings to put on charity, which is the ond of perfectneſs. And *let the peace f thee our God rule in our hearts, o which we are called in one body; and make us ever truly thankful.* Hear s, we beſeech thee, O moſt merci- ul Father; and after we have per- ected holineſs here in thy fear, bring s all to compleat our praiſes and hankſgivings to thee, in the great aſſembly of Saints and Angels, hrough Chriſt Jeſus our bleſſed Lord and Saviour: *To whom be glory both now and for ever.* Amen.

2 Pet. 3. ult.

Our Father, &c.

A Prayer at Night when there hath been a Communion.

O Eternally bleſſed Lord God; the Creator of the world, the Father of Angels and men, the

King of infinite Majeſty and Power, who canſt do what thou pleaſeſt every where. *Thine hea-*
2 Chron. 6. 18. *ven, and the heaven of heavens cannot contain thee*; who art inthroned only in thy own greatneſs, and crowned with the glory of thy own uncommunicated perfections. There is nothing can be added to thee, by us or any other creatures; of whoſe ſervices thou haſt no need; ſeeing thou art abſolutely happy in thy ſelf, *and giveſt to*
Act. 17. 25. *all life, and breath, and all things.* But it is our perfection and happineſs to admire and praiſe thee whom we cannot comprehend; to love thee as much as we know thee; and to obey thee as much as we love thee, *with a per-*
1 Chron. 28. 9. *fect heart, and with a willing mind: for the Lord ſearcheth all hearts, and underſtandeth all the imaginations of the thoughts.*

We praiſe thee therefore, O God, we ac-

acknowledge thee to be the Lord. We give thee the glory that is due unto thy name: and with hearty love offer up our ſelves again intirely unto thee, whoſe we are, and for whom we were made. Juſtice and gratitude, fear and love, hope and intereſt, whatſoever hath any power to move our hearts, do all preſs, and mightily urge us conſtantly to devote and conſecreate our ſouls and bodies to thy faithful ſervice. We cannot neglect thee, unleſs we will caſt away our ſelves; nor ſin againſt thee, unleſs we will be our own accuſers, judges and tormentors; and throw our ſelves into the greateſt miſeries. Thou haſt been ſo good to us, that if we ſhould not become good likewiſe, we muſt hate and abhorr our ſelves; who cannot but love and delight in thoſe who ſhow us any kindneſs, and beſtow any benefits upon us: though they are but thy Miniſters and Servants, that have nothing, and can do no-

thing, but what thou haſt given them, and inclineſt them to do.

By thee we were formed and brought out of our Mothers Womb. And by a greater mercy were early born again, and made thy children in Chriſt Jeſus. We have been thy care ever ſince; and been inſtructed in that Covenant of Grace (into which at our Baptiſm we were received) by the knowledge thou haſt given us of thy bleſſed Goſpel. Wherein we read the great love of our Saviour in dying for us; and have the promiſe of his Spirit to ſanctifie and govern us, his holy Precepts for the rule of our actions, his glorious Example to excite and quicken us, and the hope of eternal bliſs, by his Reſurrection from the dead, to incourage and comfort us in well doing. And in the mean time we injoy the ſociety of thy Saints, the miniſtry of thy Angels, and the direction and aſſiſtance of thy faithful ſervants, the Embaſſadors

dors of peace and reconciliation with thee. All which fruits of thy wonderful love we have long enjoyed; and thou haſt this day entertained us at thy Table: where thou haſt refreſhed us with the Communion of the body and bloud of Chriſt Jeſus; the earneſt of a bleſſed reſurrection, and the pledge of immortality. Beſides innumerable good things, which thy moſt tender mercy hath been pleaſed to beſtow upon our bodies, to make our paſſage to that bleſſedneſs, through all the troubles and dangers of this life, the more eaſie and delightful to us. And all this thou haſt done for thoſe who have been too idle and uſeleſs, cold and dull, inconſtant, and ſoon weary of their duty, forgetful of benefits, and unfaithful to their own promiſes. But thy infinite goodneſs ſtill continues to do it; to make us more diligent, more zealous, more ſteadfaſt and immoveable, more mindful of thee, and of our own

holy purpoſes, that we may be abundant, as there is reaſon, in the work of our Lord, knowing that our labour ſhall not be in vain in the Lord.

And that is the moſt ſincere and fervent deſire of our ſouls likewiſe, who here moſt humbly beſeech thee, by the power of thy holy Spirit to preſerve in us a perpetual and affectionate remembrance of all thy undeſerved kindneſs to us. Stir up all that is within us every morning to bleſs and praiſe thy holy Name: That by a renewed, ſerious acknowledgement of thy benefits, we may be more and more ſtirred up to love and to all good works. O that the Lord Jeſus may be always in our thoughts, and in our hearts; that we may make him our pattern, as he is our hope! O that nothing may be ſo dear unto us in this world, as his holineſs, his humility, his goodneſs and charity, his meekneſs and patience, his intire truſt in thee, and reſig-

reſignation to thee, his delight to do thy will, O God, in hope of that *eternal life, which thou who canſt not lye haſt promiſed to us.* Fix our minds and affections more ſteadfaſtly on that glory wherewith he is crowned, by his obedient ſuffering of death, that we may never be weary nor faint in our minds under any ſufferings for well doing: but continuing faithful to the death, may alſo receive the Crown of Life. Tit. 1. 1.

Accept, we pray thee, of this our bounden duty and ſervice; pitty our great weakneſſes; pardon all our ſins and negligences; and deny us not the grace of thy holy Spirit, which we have implored, to inable us to amend our lives according to thy holy Word: But after thou haſt refreſhed us with quiet ſleep this night, let us feel it moving our hearts to the ſame holy thoughts, acknowledgements, deſires and reſolutions which it now works in us; through

thy mercy declared to us in Christ Jesus. In whose words we conclude our Prayers, saying, as he hath taught us.

Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name: Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us: And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, &c.

PRAYERS

PRAYERS FOR FAMILIES.

MONDAY MORNING.

WE humble our ſelves, O Lord of heaven and earth, before thy glorious Majeſty; we heartily acknowledge thy Sovereign Dominion over us & all creatures; we praiſe and magnifie thy eternal Power, Wiſdom, Goodneſs and Truth; and we render thee our moſt unfeigned thanks for the innumerable benefits which thou in thy bounty haſt loaded us withal: Above all for the gracious declaration thou haſt made of thy good will to us in Chriſt Jeſus; by whom thou haſt invited and incouraged ſinners to return to thee, and

directed them in the way to everlasting bliss.

We blush to think of our shameful forgetfulness of thee, and ingratitude to thee; to whom we owe all that we have in this world, and all our hopes in the next. We most humbly implore thy tender mercies in the forgiveness of all our sins, whereby we have offended, either in thought, word, or deed, against thy just and holy Laws. For we are truly sorry for all our mis-doings: we utterly renounce whatsoever is contrary to thy will: and here devote our selves intirely to the obedience thereof. Accept, O most merciful Father, of this renewed Dedication, which we make of our whole man, body, soul and spirit to thee. And as thou dost inspire us with holy resolutions, so accompany them always with the assistance of thy grace; that we may be able every day to offer up our selves more sincerely, and more cheerfully to thee:

thee: with more pure affection, and hearty devotion, and ready diſpoſition to thy ſervice.

We adore thy great grace which hath brought ſalvation to us, and *teaches us that denying all ungodlineſs and worldly luſts, we ſhould live ſoberly, righteouſly and godly in this preſent world.* Tit. 2. 11, 12. We will indeavour, O Lord, to preſerve a grateful ſenſe of thy mighty love in our mind, and to follow the doctrine and example of thy Son Chriſt Jeſus; as becomes thoſe who have ſuch a *bleſſed hope*, and look for ſo great Salvation at the day of his glorious appearing. We deſire above all things to be ſo pure and undefiled, ſo meek and gentle, ſo humble and lowly, ſo juſt and merciful, ſo peaceable and patient, contented and thankful as our bleſſed Lord and Maſter was: And we hope that thou wilt fulfil all the gracious promiſes he hath made to us, which we eſteem far greater treaſure than thou-

thouſands of gold and ſilver. They are the ſupport, the comfort, the ſatisfaction of our hearts. We ask nothing, but that it may be to thy ſervants according to his Word.

Thou haſt mercifully kept us the laſt night, bleſſed be thy continued goodneſs, and raiſed us again to ſee the light of this morning: Receive us likewiſe all this day into thy protection, to which we moſt humbly commit our ſelves. We truſt our ſelves and all belonging to us with thee our Creator and Redeemer. We ſubmit to thy orders, and are willing to do and ſuffer what thou pleaſeſt: *Waiting for the mercy of our Lord Chriſt Jeſus unto eternal life.*

Jude 21.

And we deſire, thou knoweſt, the good of all mankind, as well as our own; eſpecially of all Chriſtian people: that they may all walk worthy of the Goſpel, and live together in unity and godly love. For which end, we pray that all Chriſtian

ſtian Kings, Princes and Governours, may be wiſe, pious, juſt and merciful; indeavouring that all their ſubjects may lead peaceable lives under them, in all godlineſs and honeſty. And more particularly that our Soveraign may be bleſſed with a religious, quiet, long and proſperous Reign: and that all his Miniſters of State, and Officers of Juſtice may conſcientiouſly diſcharge the truſt that is repoſed in them; ſeeking in their ſeveral places how to right the oppreſſed, to comfort the afflicted, to provide for the poor and needy, and to relieve all thoſe that are in any miſery. Bleſs all our ſpiritual Paſtors and Inſtructors: ſucceed their labours; and give us grace to follow their godly admonitions, *to eſteem them very highly in love for their works ſake; and to be at peace among our ſelves.* 1 Theſſ. 5. 13. The ſame bleſſings we crave for all our friends, relations and acquaintance; that we may all live in per-

perfect love and peace together; doing our duties to thee, to each other, and to all men ſo faithfully, that we may give a comfortable account of our ſelves, and rejoyce together at the great day of the Lord Jeſus. In whoſe holy words we beſeech thee to help us ſtill more heartily to offer up our deſires to thee.

Our Father, &c.

At Night.

ALmighty and moſt merciful Father; by whom we were made, and in whom we live, move, and have our being: to whoſe tender compaſſions we owe our ſafety the day paſt, together with all the comforts of this preſent life, and the hopes of that which is to come. We praiſe and laud thee, O Lord, the Creator and Governor of the world.

We

We aſcribe all Greatneſs, Might, Majeſty, Wiſdom, Riches and Bounty to thee; whom all the hoſt of heaven continually admires and acknowledges with the moſt joyful reverence. We bow our ſelves likewiſe before thee, and worſhip thee, in an humble ſenſe that we are nothing in compare with thee, and have nothing but what we receive from thee. *Unto thee do we give thanks, unto thee do we give thanks, O God, our exceeding joy, who daily poureſt thy benefits upon us.* Pſal. 75. 1. Pſal. 43. 4. 68. 19. Bleſſed be thy great goodneſs, for our continued health, for our food and raiment, our peace and ſafety, the ſociety of our friends, the love of our neighbours, and the ſucceſs of our honeſt labours: But above all things, for ſending Jeſus Chriſt into the world to dwell among us, to dye for us, and to direct us in the way to immortal life. We thank thee that we feel in our hearts any motion

motion towards thee, and that we have made the leaſt progreſs in thoſe paths of life. O Lord; we preſent our ſelves here before thee to be inſpired with ſuch a vigorous and full ſenſe of thy love, as may move us more powerfully towards thee; and put us forward with a greater earneſtneſs, zeal and diligence in all our duty. There is nothing in heaven or earth that we can deſire, but to be beloved of thee; who poſſeſſeſt both, and art able to make thy friends as great and happy as thou pleaſeſt. Aſſiſt us therefore ſtill by thy grace to the recovery of ſuch a lively Image of thee in all righteouſneſs, purity, mercy, faithfulneſs and truth; that we may know thou loveſt us. O that Jeſus, the hope of glory, may be formed in us, in all humility, meekneſs, patience, contentedneſs, peaceableneſs, and abſolute ſurrender of our ſouls and bodies to thy holy will and pleaſure: That *we may no longer live, but*

but Chriſt may live in us, and the life we lead in the fleſh may be by the faith of thy Son, O God, who loved us, and gave himſelf for us. Gal. 2. 20. The remembrance of that love is moſt dear and precious to us. We cannot often enough make mention of ſo great kindneſs, as his making himſelf freely an offering for our ſins. It moves us, again to offer up our ſelves ſincerely to thee, to do thy will, O God, as our bleſſed Lord and Maſter did. We repoſe alſo an intire confidence in thee, and ſtill truſt our ſelves with thee, who haſt *not ſpared thine own Son, but given him up for us all.* Rom. 8. 32. We will humbly and reverently accept of whatſoever thou ſendeſt us; and *in every thing give thanks, which is thy will concerning us in Chriſt Jeſus.* 1 Theſſ. 5. 18. We hope thou wilt never leave us, nor forſake us: but conduct us ſafe through all varieties and changes of our condition here,

here, in an unchangeable love to thee, and an holy compoſure and tranquillity of mind in thy love to us, till we come to live with thee, and enjoy thee for ever.

And now that we are going to lay our ſelves down to ſleep, take us into thy gracious protection; and ſettle our ſpirits in ſuch quiet and delightful thoughts of Jeſus, that we may be willing to leave this world and go to him: *Who dyed for us, that whether we wake or ſleep, we ſhould live together with him.*

1 Theſſ. 5. 10.

To his bleſſing we commend all mankind, of whatſoever rank and condition they be; high and low, rich and poor: that they may all be ſo happy as to do their ſeveral duties carefully, and to enjoy contentedly whatſoever is needful for them. We leave all we have with thee, eſpecially our friends and thoſe who are dear unto us; deſiring that when we are dead and gone, they may

may lift up their ſouls in this manner unto thee, and teach thoſe that come after to praiſe, love and obey thee: and that, if we awake again in the morning, our mouths may likewiſe praiſe thee again with joyful lips, and we may ſtill offer our ſelves, a more acceptable ſacrifice to thee through Chriſt Jeſus. In whoſe words we beſeech thee to hear us, according to the fulleſt ſence and intention of them.

Our Father, &c.

PRAYERS

PRAYERS FOR FAMILIES.

TUESDAY MORNING.

ALL honour, glory and praiſe be given to thee, O Lord, our Creator, Redeemer and Comforter, by us, and by all the world. Thou art worthy of all our love, ſervice and obedience, being moſt excellent in thine own nature, and of ſo abundant kindneſs to us thy creatures. Who moſt humbly therefore proſtrate our ſelves before thee this Morning, to make thee our thankful acknowledgements for all thy benefits, and tender thee our moſt hearty and affectionate ſervice, and

wait

wait upon thy bounty for the continuance of thy grace and mercy to us. Though we are not worthy, we confeſs, of the leaſt regard from thee, whom we have ſo much neglected, and whoſe love and clemency we have too often abuſed; yet we hope thou wilt accept of this ſmall oblation which we make of our ſelves, our ſouls and bodies, with unfeigned devotion to thee. Pardon and forgive us, we moſt humbly beſeech thee, all our paſt offences; the remembrance of which is grievous and bitter to us: and vouchſafe us the grace of thy holy Spirit to enable us to do thy will with greater care and diligence for the time to come. Let it ever accompany and aſſiſt us, according as thou ſeeſt us ſincerely deſirous and ſtudious to pleaſe thee, in all the actions of an holy life, in chaſtity and temperance, juſtice and fidelity, mercy and charity, meekneſs and humility, patience and contentedneſs, in-

nnocency and peace; and in conti-ual prayers, praiſes and thankſgi-ings to thee, the Father of mer-ies in Chriſt Jeſus our Lord.

We ſee how frail and weak our odies and all their enjoyments are; nd therefore we the more earneſtly deſire to have our ſouls inriched with hoſe immortal treaſures of thy Di-vine Grace. O that we may never ceaſe moſt zealouſly to ſeek and pur-ſue them; and that we may think our ſelves happy enough in the poſ-ſeſſion of them; and may rejoyce in nothing ſo much, as in *having our fruit unto holineſs*, that in *the end* we may attain *e-ternal life*. Suffer not our ſpirits to ſink too deep into the love of any, the deareſt, good that we have in this world: But rather by all theſe earthly things, which thy goodneſs affords to us for our ſupport, eaſe and delight, raiſe our minds and hearts to thoſe Celeſtial enjoyments which will yield us eternal pleaſure and ſa-tisfaction. Rom. 6. 22.

tisfaction. Set our affections principally on things above. Make us so wise as to provide our selves friends that never dye; and to be still preparing our selves by all divine qualities for their company and society: that so they may *receive us*, when we remove hence, *into* their *everlasting habitations.*

Luk. 16. 9.

Thus now we commend our selves this day to thy most gracious protection, guidance and blessing: hoping that the same good providence which preserved us and our habitations the last night, from fire, and innumerable other dangers (for which we thank thee) will guard us this day from all evil and mischief, and bring us in safety of soul and body to praise thee in the Evening. Help us thankfully to receive, and soberly to use all thy mercies; quietly to do our own business, and bear our several burdens; to be just in our dealings; innocent and harmless

in

our converſation; well pleaſed with the proſperity of our neighbours; deſirous of the good of all the world: eſpecially that they may all love, and honour, and joyn together in magnifying and praiſing thee, our Lord and Governour, whoſe name is excellent in all the earth.

More particularly, we implore thy mercies towards theſe Kingdoms wherein we live. Remember not againſt us our high provocations. Spare us, good Lord, and have patience with us; if perhaps we may bring forth better fruit, becoming thy holy Goſpel, and all the care thou haſt taken about us. Indue our Soveraign with much Wiſdom from above, that he may always diſcern what is moſt profitable for us, and earneſtly purſue it to the utmoſt of his power. Bleſs him in his Relations; in his Councellors; in his Judges, and all other Officers; in all the Nobility, Clergy, Gentry, and Commonalty of the

Realm: that every one of them may uprightly and zealously do their duty, to the maintenance of thy true Religion, and the increase of Piety, Honesty and Brotherly love among us. Comfort and relieve all those that are in any distress, trouble or anguish, either of body or of mind. And give us tender and pitiful hearts towards them, ready to help and ease them according to our abilities: That we following the example of our merciful and compassionate High-Priest Christ Jesus, may have now the benefit of his intercession for us, and at last be admitted into the high and holy place where he is. In whose blessed Name and words, we conclude our Prayers.

Our Father, &c.

At Night.

WE fall down before thee, O Lord of heaven and earth, and worſhip thee in the deepeſt humility of our ſouls: acknowledging that we are thy creatures, who ſtand infinitely bound unto thee, by innumerable bleſſings and favours which thou haſt conferred upon us, out of thy mere bounty and goodneſs. We owe our lives to that alone, and all the comforts of them; together with all the hopes we have hereafter either in this world or the other. And bleſſed, for ever bleſſed be thy merciful kindneſs, for giving ſuch glorious hopes by the Lord Jeſus: By his Death, and Reſurrection; by his Aſcenſion, and being inthroned at thy right hand; and by the coming of the Holy Ghoſt to be a witneſs of his Majeſty and Glory. We rejoyce, O Lord, in that great ſal-

vation which thou haſt ſent unto us; and cannot but be ſtill praiſing thee, whoſe love hath ſo abounded towards us, beyond all our thoughts and deſires. Pardon, we moſt humbly beſeech thee, out of the ſame grace and mercy, all our paſt neglects of thee, our inſenſibleneſs of thy benefits, our careleſneſs, or inconſtancy in our obedience, and particularly whatſoever we have done or omitted this day, contrary to thoſe holy purpoſes and reſolutions wherein we ſtand ingaged to thee.

And vouchſafe us the aſſiſtance of thy holy Spirit to inable us to perform thoſe vows better, which here we renew of greater gratitude, and more chearful and ſteadfaſt obedience to thy divine Majeſty for the time to come. Awaken our minds to frequent and ſerious reflections upon thy undeſerved and moſt bountiful mercies towards us. Touch our hearts with ſuch an ingenuous

and

and dutiful ſenſe of them, that our wills may be overcome to yield themſelves wholly and abſolutely to thee. And that we may feel them conſtantly provoked to love and good works, help us ever to ſet our Lord and Maſter, by whoſe name we are called, before our eyes; and to admire his unſpotted purity, his condeſcending humility, his tender-hearted charity, his meekneſs of wiſdom, his hearty truſt in thee, and reſignation to thee, his forgiveneſs of injuries, his patience under reproaches and cruel torments, his peaceable and contented ſpirit, his acknowledging thee in all things, and ever ſeeking thy Honour and Glory: That being in love with all theſe, and valuing them more than life it ſelf, we may never ceaſe our indeavours till this Image of our dear Lord and Maſter be formed in our hearts.

O Lord Jeſus favourably behold theſe holy deſires, wherewith our

ſouls aſpire towards thee. Preſerve and maintain them; incourage and increaſe them; make them reſtleſs and unwearied till they be accompliſhed in the injoyment of this great bleſſedneſs.

Thou who haſt begun a good work in us, finiſh and compleat it, we moſt humbly and earneſtly beſeech thee. Give us thy grace continually for our ſeaſonable relief and ſuccour: that we perſevering in well doing, may have a ſolid and lively hope in our death, of coming to ſee thee in that high and holy place where thou liveſt and reigneſt for evermore.

As for all the things of this life, we moſt heartily refer our ſelves to thy Fatherly Wiſdom and Goodneſs, O Lord God Almighty: truſting thou wilt order for us that which is moſt convenient, and bleſs our honeſt diligence with ſuch a competent portion of them, that we may have the more leiſure to give continual

nual praiſe, honour, bleſſing and thankſgiving to thee whoſe mercies endure for ever.

Accept, we pray thee, of our thankful acknowledgements at this time, for thoſe which this day hath added to the reſt of thy benefits, which thou haſt been continually heaping upon us ever ſince we were born. And let all the people of the earth praiſe the name of the Lord, which is highly exalted above all bleſſing and praiſe. O that all the Kingdoms of the World would become the Kingdoms of our Saviour Chriſt: and that all they who acknowledge his authority would religiouſly obey his holy Laws; that all wars, oppreſſion and cruelty may ceaſe among Chriſtian people, and they may live together in brotherly love and unity. Make our Soveraign and all his Realms happy by a great increaſe of true knowledge, godlineſs and vertue every where. Bleſs all our friends; forgive our ene-

mies; requite all the kindneſs of our benefactors; comfort every one of thy deſolate and afflicted ſervants; and turn their mourning and heavineſs, into joy and gladneſs at the laſt.

And now that we are going to repoſe our ſelves; keep us, we beſeech thee, and all belonging to us, in ſafety. Refreſh our wearied ſpirits with comfortable reſt and ſleep; and when we awaken again in the morning, direct our thoughts immediately to thee, our merciful preſerver; and help us to imploy all our renewed ſtrength to thy honour and glory, according to thy will declared by Chriſt Jeſus; in whoſe bleſſed Name and Words we commend our ſelves to thy infinite Mercies.

Our Father, &c.

PRAYERS

PRAYERS FOR FAMILIES.

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

O Moſt great and mighty Lord; the Poſſeſſor of heaven and earth. All the Angels worſhip and adore thy incomprehenſible Majeſty with the humbleſt reverence; and rejoyce in rendring praiſe, bleſſing, and thankſgiving to thee, the Father of ſpirits: For thou haſt created all things, and in wiſdom haſt thou made them all; and ſpread thy tender mercies over all thy works. It is no leſs our happineſs than our duty to joyn our

hearts and voices with that heavenly hoſt, moſt gratefully to acknowledge thy bounty to us among the reſt of thy creatures, and thy particular grace and favour in our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, our moſt merciful Saviour and Redeemer. We can never ſufficiently admire that love which gave him to dye for us, and hath made him the Lord of life and glory; that he may be the Author of eternal Salvation to all thoſe that obey him. All the love we have is too little to give thee, to whom all our ſervices are due by a former title. Our higheſt praiſes fall infinitely ſhort of thy moſt excellent Majeſty; and we are aſhamed of the moſt affectionate thanks we can render to thee for thoſe ineſtimable benefits which thou haſt conferred on us, and ſo long continued to us.

How much greater reaſon then have we to be abaſhed at our ſhameful ingratitude and diſobedience to thy divine Majeſty; for which we are heartily

heartily ſorry, and do now moſt earneſtly repent our ſelves of it: unfeignedly reſolving, and proteſting to be more faithful to thee for the time to come. Pardon us therefore, Good Lord, and receive us unto thy mercy. Accept of our renewed vows to ſtudy and do our duties conſcientiouſly, towards thee, and towards all men. And as thou haſt excited theſe holy deſires and purpoſes in our hearts, ſo inable us to perform them conſtantly in the whole courſe of our life.

Our bleſſed Saviour hath told us, thou wilt as readily give thy holy Spirit to them that ask it, as a Parent will give bread to his hungry children. O Father of mercies, let it be unto us according to his Word. Cheriſh theſe little beginnings of goodneſs which thou ſeeſt in our ſouls; and proſper all our endeavours to attain a greater meaſure of it. And ſince at the beſt we are but unprofitable ſervants, and can do no more

more than was our duty to do: inable us to do every thing, which thou haſt commanded us, heartily, with good will, and true love to thy ſervice. We know this is all that can, in the leaſt, commend us to thy free grace and favour: and therefore we moſt humbly again dovote our ſelves to do thy Will, with a cordial affection to it. We would ever approach unto thee with delight and pleaſure: and feel it the joy of our hearts to think of thee, to praiſe thee, to give thee thanks, and to offer our ſelves with abſolute reſignation to thee. O that Mercy may always pleaſe us as it pleaſeth thee! that we may be ſtrictly juſt and righteous; may chearfully paſs by injuries; freely deny all deſires of ſinful pleaſures; willingly ſubmit to thy fatherly corrections; and perform the duties of our ſeveral relations, with ſingleneſs of heart. Render us ſo mindful of the great love of our Lord and Maſter

ſter Chriſt, that we may be zealouſly concerned for his glory, and uſe our utmoſt diligence to do Him and his Religion ſome honour in the world: delighting to commemorate his Death and Paſſion, making a joyful ſacrifice of our ſouls and bodies to him, and deſiring moſt earneſtly that his *kingdom may come*, and all mankind ſubmit themſelves to his Government.

Fulfil, moſt merciful Lord, all our petitions; and as thou haſt mightily protected us, and our dwellings this laſt night from fire and thieves, and whatſoever might diſturb our repoſe (bleſſed be thy goodneſs) ſo accompany us all this day with thy bleſſing: that we may pleaſe thee in body and ſoul, and be ſafe under thy defence; who art nigh to all thoſe that call upon thee, that call upon thee in truth. And O that all thoſe who are forgetful of their duty to thee, may be awakened to a lively ſenſe of all thy benefits, and

and fill the whole world with thy praiſes. Stir up eſpecially the minds of all Chriſtian people, to inquire after and follow the Truth, as it is in Jeſus: abandoning all vice and wickedneſs, and exerciſing themſelves to have conſciences void of offence, towards thee, and towards all men. And diſpoſe the hearts of all their Kings and Princes, to make themſelves the greateſt examples of Chriſtian Piety to all others. Bleſs theſe Kingdoms, and indue our Soveraign with ſuch excellent Wiſdom, and holy Zeal for thy honour and glory; that we may ſee many good days under his Government. O that true Religion, Juſtice, Mercy, Brotherly kindneſs, and all things elſe that are praiſe-worthy may ſo flouriſh among us, that we may enjoy the bleſſings of peace and plenty, and there may be no complaining in our ſtreets.

We recommend to thee all our friends and neighbours; all the poor;

the ſick, and other afflicted perſons: deſiring thoſe mercies for them which we ſhould ask for our ſelves, were we in their condition; incouraged hereto by the large declarations which thou haſt made of thy abundant goodneſs to mankind in our Lord Jeſus. In whoſe words we conclude our humble ſupplications unto thee; ſaying,

Our Father, &c.

At Night.

ALmighty and everlaſting God; the Soveraign Lord of all creatures in heaven and earth, and our moſt merciful and gracious Father in thy Son Chriſt Jeſus. We moſt heartily acknowledge that our beings, and all the comforts of them depend on thee, the Fountain of all good. We have nothing but what

what we have received thence: and is owing intirely to thy free and bounteous love, O most blessed Creator; and to the unsearchable riches of thy grace, O most blessed Redeemer. To thee therefore be given by us and all creatures, whom thou hast made to know how great and how good thou art, all honour, glory and praise; all love, service and obedience, as long as we have any being. It is but meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places give thanks unto thee, O Lord; and devoutly resign both soul and body to thee, to be absolutely governed and ruled according to thy holy will and pleasure. We are heartily sorry that we have not done it, from the very beginning of our lives till this time. We are ashamed to think of our injustice and ingratitude, in following our own desires so long, and rendring our selves, no sooner, most humbly obedient in all things

to

to thee. Our hopes are only in thoſe infinite mercies, which have ſpared us notwithſtanding, and opened our eyes to ſee our errors, and touched our hearts with ſome ſenſe of our duty.

And we hope in them not only for a pardon, which we earneſtly implore according to thy gracious promiſes made in Chriſt Jeſus, but for the power of thy holy Spirit, to further and promote thoſe godly reſolutions, which we feel already in our hearts, to live as becomes thy creatures; and as becomes the Diſciples of Jeſus Chriſt, who were early dedicated to thee, and have often ſince vowed themſelves to thy ſervice. As thou haſt made us to underſtand the reaſonableneſs and goodneſs of all thy Laws: ſo make us more and more in love with them; that they may be writ upon our hearts, and our wills may cleave unto them, as our very life. Keep alive ſuch a powerful ſenſe of thee,

and

and of the love of our Lord and Saviour in our mind; that we may naturally fear and reverence thee, and ſtudy to be approved of thee, and beloved by thee, and account it our higheſt perfection and happineſs to be like thee.

O that it may ever be the joy of our hearts to be Righteous as thou art Righteous; to be Merciful, as thou our heavenly Father art Merciful; to be Holy, as thou who haſt called us art Holy, in all manner of converſation; to be indued with thy divine Wiſdom, and to reſemble thee in Faithfulneſs and Truth. O that the memory of our bleſſed Saviour, and his admirable example may be always dear unto us: that we may chearfully follow him in his Humility, Meekneſs, Patience, Contentedneſs, Peaceableneſs, and Delight to do thy Will, O God, in every thing as he did. Accept, we moſt humbly beſeech thee, of theſe deſires of our ſouls after thee; and gra-

graciously assist and strengthen them, according as we unfeignedly offer them up unto thee. Accept likewise of our thanks for thy merciful preservation of us all this day; by which we are come in safety to the conclusion of it, and are here before thee with a new load of thy benefits upon us, added to other innumerable blessings which thou hast formerly bestowed. We are bold again likewise to commit our selves unto thee this night; and to trust in thy merciful protection and care over us, when we can take no care of our selves, or any thing else belonging to us. Defend us from all the powers of darkness, from evil men, from fire and all such sad accidents: and raise up our spirits, together with our bodies, in the morning, to such a vigorous sense of thy continued goodness, as may provoke us all the day long to an unwearied diligence in well doing.

And the same Mercies that we beg for

for our ſelves, we deſire for the reſt of mankind: eſpecially for all thoſe who are called by the name of Chriſt. O that every member of that body, of which He is the head, may do their duties with all fidelity, according to the ſeveral offices to which thou haſt aſſigned them. That Kings may be tender-hearted, as the Fathers of their Countries; and all their ſubjects may be dutiful and obedient to them as their children: That the Paſtors of the Church may feed thy flock with Wiſdom and Underſtanding; and the people may all ſubmit unto them, and follow their godly counſels: That the rich and mighty may have compaſſion on the poor and miſerable; and all ſuch diſtreſſed people may bleſs the rich, and rejoyce in the proſperity of thoſe that are above them. Give husbands and wives, parents and chidren, maſters and ſervants, the grace to behave themſelves ſo in their ſeveral Relations, that they may

may adorn the Doctrine of God our Saviour in all things; and being an honour to his Religion here, may receive immortal honour and glory hereafter from the hands of Christ Jesus; in whose holy name and words, we continue to beseech thy grace and mercy towards us, and all thy people every where: saying,

Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name: Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread: And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us: And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, &c.

PRAYERS

PRAYERS FOR FAMILIES.

THURSDAY MORNING.

O Lord, the high and holy One, whose *glory is above the earth and heaven.* Psal. 148. 13. We thy creatures proſtrate our ſelves in the humbleſt adorations of thee: aſcribing to thee all Power, Wiſdom, Riches, Might, Majeſty, and Dominion; and acknowledging that to thee of right belongs all Worſhip, Bleſſing, Thankſgiving and Praiſe; together with all Honour, Love, Service and Obedience for evermore. Bleſſed be thine Omnipoent

potent goodneſs, which hath advanced us to ſuch a degree of being, that we are capable to look back to thee from whom we come; to know thee, to love thee, to acknowledge thy great bounty towards us, and to reſemble thee in Wiſdom and Goodneſs. All that is within us bleſſes thy Holy Name, for breathing into us immortal ſpirits, that we may eternally admire thee, praiſe thee, love thee, and joyfully render thoſe grateful acknowledgements which we owe unto thee. We can never ſufficiently magnifie thy mercies towards us; eſpecially thoſe in the Lord Jeſus, in whom thy Grace hath ſo exceedingly abounded, as to ſurpaſs not only our deſerts, but the largeſt of our deſires. Bleſſed, bleſſed, for ever bleſſed be thy fatherly goodneſs, who haſt ſent him from heaven ſo unexpectedly to viſit us vile wretches, who dwell in houſes of clay, whoſe foundation is in the duſt. Lord! what is man, that thou art

art mindful of him; or the son of man, that thou didst thus visit him? We thank thee, according to our poor ability, from the very bottom of our hearts, for his manifestation in our flesh; for the charitable testimonies he gave of his love to mankind in the course of his life; for that astonishing grace in submitting himself to dye for us; for his glorious Resurrection and Ascension to heaven; for the Soveraign Power and Authority which thou hast given him at thy right hand; for his compassionate intercession for us; and the assurances we have received of his being the King of glory, and of his continued kindness to us, by the coming of the Holy Ghost. We will never cease to bless thee for that great salvation, *which was first preached by the Lord, & was confirmed by them that heard* Heb. 2. 3, 4. *him; and for the witness which thou bearest to them, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles*

and gifts of the holy Ghoſt, according to thy own will. We rejoyce in the Light of thy holy Goſpel; that we ſee the way to be happy both by the Doctrine, and example of thy Son Jeſus; that we have the incouragement of his precious promiſes; and ſuch good hope of remiſſion of ſin, and eternal life, in the day when he ſhall judge the world in righteouſneſs. O how much are we bound unto thee, for that comfortable hope which thou haſt given us, of ſeeing our dear Saviour in all his glory, and being there where he is, and reigning with him for ever! We again render thee our moſt hearty thanks, for that everlaſting conſolation and good hope through grace, which thou haſt given us: and for all thoſe benefits likewiſe, which thou art pleaſed to beſtow upon us, to make our ſtay here on earth the more convenient and delightful to us. We are every way obliged to thee, beyond

yond all that we are able to expreſs or conceive. Thou feedeſt us, and clotheſt us; thou preſerveſt our health, and our ſtrength; thou haſt delivered us from innumerable dangers; and when thou haſt chaſtiſed us, it hath been in great mercy and clemency, and not according to our deſerving.

O that all the world would ſhew forth thy praiſe, and devote themſelves to the ſervice of our Lord. Let all Kings of the earth ſubmit themſelves unto him, and glory in the name of his obedient ſubjects. High and low, rich and poor, let them praiſe the name of the Lord, from this time forth and for evermore.

Accept, moſt gracious God, of theſe unfeigned deſires of us thy ſervants; who, for our parts, intirely dedicate our ſelves, both ſouls and bodies, unto thee: Reſolving in all things to walk worthy of thee, who haſt called us to thy Kingdom and

Glory, and bleſſed us alſo with many other good things which make this life to be a more eaſie paſſage to a better. We will never forget how much we are indebted to thee: but ſtudy to expreſs our grateful remembrance of thy mercies, by living *ſoberly, righteouſly and godly in this preſent world; looking for that bleſſed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God, and our Saviour Jeſus Chriſt.* Favour, we pray thee, theſe holy purpoſes with the conſtant aſſiſtance of thy good ſpirit; that we may be able to accompliſh what we have begun, and to perfect holineſs in thy fear. Help us to *add to our faith, vertue; and to vertue, knowledge; and to knowledge, temperance; and to temperance, patience; and to patience, godlineſs; and to godlineſs, brotherly kindneſs; and to brotherly kindneſs, charity. That theſe things being in us and abounding, they may make*

Tit. 2. 12, 13.

2 Pet. 1. 5, 6, 7, 8.

make us to be neither barren, nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt.

Preſerve us this day eſpecially; that we ſwerve not preſently from theſe pious reſolutions: But may give ſuch a proof of their ſincerity, by our being ſteadfaſt and immoveable in all well doing, notwithſtanding any temptation to the contrary; that we may have the better hope we ſhall perſevere to the very end, through thy continued grace in Chriſt Jeſus; in whoſe words we deſire all that thou ſeeſt needful, either for our ſouls or bodies, ſaying,

Our Father, &c.

At Night.

WE are here again proſtrate before thee, O Lord of hea-

ven and earth, to joyn our ſelves with all that holy company, *who reſt not day and night, ſaying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come. Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory, honour, and power: for thou haſt created all things, and for thy pleaſure they are and were created.* Bleſſed be thy divine goodneſs, which hath made the children of men but little lower than the Angels; and crowned us with ſuch glory and honour, that we are capable to accompany that heavenly hoſt in giving continual thanks and praiſe unto thee. Praiſed be thy name that we are now alive; and that we have the uſe of our reaſon and underſtanding; and enjoy ſo many of the comforts and conveniences of this preſent life; and have attained a good hope through Chriſt Jeſus of being immortally happy. O how great was thy love which ſent him into the world to

Revel. 4. 8, 11.

direct

direct us in the way to that happiness by his holy doctrine and life; and to be a propitiation for our sins by his death; and to *be the first that should rise from the dead, and should shew light unto the world.* Act. 26. 23. We rejoyce in that light of life: We most chearfully devote our selves to be the faithful Disciples of him, the Prince of peace, the Lord of life and glory. It is our happiness as well as our duty to be governed by him, and obey his commands. We are sensible that they are all equal, just and good: and that thou hast done us an infinite kindness, in teaching us to deny ungodliness and worldly lusts, and to live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world.

And therefore we here again most heartily surrender our wills to thine: desiring that we may unchangeably cleave unto it, with the greatest and most intire love and affection to all its commands. O that there may a-

bide for ever in us such a strong and powerful sense of thy mighty love towards us in Christ Jesus, as may constrain us freely and willingly to please thee in the constant exercise of piety and devotion; righteousness and mercy; temperance and chastity; meekness and patience; truth and fidelity; together with such an humble, contented and peaceable spirit, as may adorn the Religion of our Lord and Master. O God, that these holy desires and inclinations may never dye, nor languish in our hearts: but be kept alive in their vigour and force, by the perpetual inspirations of the holy Ghost.

We wait upon thee for that promise of our Saviour, to assist and promote our sincere indeavours, to preserve our souls unblameable in the love of thee our God, and of all mankind. We heartily desire the prosperity and welfare of every one of them, as well as our own. O

that

that they were all so wise and happy as to acknowledge and submit themselves to thee, by obeying thy holy Laws. Especially we desire that all Kings and Princes may become our Saviours Subjects; and conforming themselves to his will, may be rendred thereby most excellent examples to all other men. Indue our Soveraign with abundance of the Spirit of counsel, and judgement, and the fear of our Lord. Make him happy in wise and faithful Ministers; in loyal and peaceable Subjects; and in the good success of all his enterprises for the honour of Religion, and his peoples tranquillity. We commend to thy mercies all our friends, relations, and benefactors: desiring that all who have done us good, may be requited an hundred fold here, and obtain at last eternal life. And all that have done evil to us, as we heartily forgive them, so we earnestly desire they may obtain thy gracions pardon.

Together with theſe we remember likewiſe all that are in affliction, whatſoever it be either of ſoul or body: to whom we wiſh eaſe, and comfort, and ſeaſonable relief; that they may rejoyce in the end for the days wherein they have ſeen adverſity.

In theſe holy thoughts and deſires we now are bold to commend our ſelves to thy protection this night; who haſt preſerved and bleſſed us (we moſt thankfully acknowledge) all the day paſt. We repoſe our ſelves in the belief of thy good providence; with which we intruſt our ſelves, and all belonging to us. We would lay down our ſelves to ſleep, with hearts full of love to thee, and humble faith and hope in thee: Deſiring we may awake again in the ſame manner, and find that we are ſtill with thee. Diſpoſe us, good Lord, by the reſt thou giveſt us always to ſerve thee more zealouſly with our renewed

ſpirits:

ſpirits: that after the few days and nights we have to paſs in this world, we may come to thy eternal reſt together with Chriſt Jeſus. In whoſe bleſſed name and words, we ſtill recommend our ſelves to thy mercies.

Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name: Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread: And forgive us our treſpaſſes, as we forgive them that treſpaſs againſt us: And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, &c.

PRAYERS

PRAYERS FOR FAMILIES.

FRIDAY MORNING.

O God, moſt bleſſed for ever: whoſe the world is, and the fulneſs thereof; who needeſt not any thing that we can give thee, for thou giveſt us whatſoever we injoy. We proſtrate our ſelves before thee to make ſuch poor expreſſions as we are able, of the ſenſe we have of thine infinite bounty to us. It is but fit and meet that we ſhould acknowledge and praiſe thee, though we can thereby add nothing unto thee. It is our happineſs to have

a grateful remembrance of thy goodneſs to us: and to be knit unto thee in hearty love, and dutiful affection all the days of our life.

We thank thee therefore, O Lord of heaven and earth, who haſt loaded us continually with thy benefits. They are great, and many more than we can number; both towards our bodies, and towards our ſouls; for the comfort of this life, and our everlaſting Salvation in the Life to come. For ever adored be thy love in Chriſt Jeſus, who hath given us an undoubted teſtimony of thy fatherly care and providence over us: and incouraged us, though we have offended thee, to addreſs our ſelves to thee, with good hope of thy gracious acceptance of us into friendſhip with thee again. We love thee, O Lord, above all things. We freely offer our ſpirits, ſouls, and bodies to thee, with moſt ſincere devotion, and the heartieſt affection to thy ſervice. There is nothing we deſire

and

and long for ſo much, as to have a lively ſenſe of thy marvailous love always poſſeſſing our hearts; that may ſtill conſtrain us to love thee, to obey thee, to truſt in thee, to be content with the portion thy love allots unto us, and to rejoyce even in the midſt of all the troubles of this life.

We cannot chuſe, O Lord, when we ſeriouſly think of what thou haſt done for us; but abſolutely commit our ſelves to thee, & intirely confide in thee for the time to come. Since thou haſt *not ſpared thy own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how ſhalt thou not with him alſo freely give us all things?* Rom. 8. 32. We depend upon thee eſpecially for the grace of thy holy Spirit; for the power of which in our hearts, exciting theſe holy deſires and godly reſolutions, we moſt humbly thank thy divine Majeſty. O that we may feel it perpetually bearing us up by the ſtrength of our moſt holy faith,

faith, and by the power of love and hope, above all the temptations, which at any time aſſault us. That we may keep our ſelves unſpotted from the world; and no appetite of pleaſure, of glory, or of riches may ever carry us from our duty: but we may ſtill cleave to thee in Righteouſneſs, Purity, Humility, Charity, and all other divine vertues, of which our Lord hath given us ſo great an example.

For his ſake we hope for a favourable acceptance of theſe our praiſes, acknowledgements and prayers. For we muſt be ſtill beholden to thine infinite goodneſs, for the leaſt regard to any thing that we can do, who are but unprofitable ſervants. And we wait upon the ſame goodneſs for thy bleſſing to accompany us all this day; that we may do nothing, but what we know is pleaſing to thee, and may be ſo proſpered, protected and aſſiſted by thine Almighty power, that we may

return

return with our hearts full of love and thankfulneſs to thee in the evening, again to praiſe and magnifie thy continued kindneſs to us. Unto which we commend moſt heartily the reſt of mankind: deſiring that they may all know thee, the true God, and Jeſus Chriſt whom thou haſt ſent: whom to know is eternal life. And O that all Chriſtians would walk worthy of thy high and heavenly Calling; that others ſeeing their good works, may be invited thereby to acknowledge and glorifie thee our heavenly Father. More particularly we deſire the increaſe of wiſdom and goodneſs, to all Chriſtian Kings and Princes; and a plentiful portion of the Spirit of thy Grace to all Chriſtian Biſhops, Prieſts, and Deacons: that they may be eminent inſtruments of thy honour, and their peoples good, by the authority of their Doctrine and godly Example. Make our Soveraign and us all happy in each

each other; by the faithful diſcharge of our ſeveral duties, in the places wherein thy moſt high wiſdom hath ſet us. And we deſire the comfort of thoſe that mourn, the eaſe of thoſe who are in pain, the health of the ſick, the releaſe of poor priſoners and captives, the quiet and ſatisfaction of thoſe who are in trouble and anguiſh of mind, and the true content of all men in whatſoever condition they are: that we may be all continually giving thanks to thee, the Father of mercies, for *the joy thou haſt ſet before us*, and the hope we have, by running our Chriſtian race with patience, to come to that bleſſed place into which *Jeſus our fore-runner is already entred for us.* By whom we continue to deſire, in his own words, that thou mayſt be glorified every where, in our well doing; ſaying as he hath taught us,

Our Father, &c.

At Night.

O Lord, the Almighty Creator and Governour of the world. *How great and manifold are thy works! in wiſdom haſt thou made them all.* Pſal. 104. 24. *The day is thine, the night alſo is thine: thou haſt prepared the light and the Sun.* 74. 16. We thy creatures, a ſmall part of mankind, proſtrate our ſelves before thee this evening, in the humbleſt adoration of thy divine Majeſty: praiſing thy incomprehenſible perfections, and rendring thee our thanks for all the benefits thou haſt beſtowed on the whole world, eſpecially on us whom thou haſt called to the knowledge of thy grace in Chriſt Jeſus. It is a marvailous love wherewith thou haſt loved us. Thou haſt not dealt ſo with all people; and as for thy great

great and precious promiſes they have not known them.

We are bound therefore more particularly to offer up unto thee continually ſpiritual ſacrifices by Chriſt Jeſus; and to laud and bleſs thy great and glorious Name in the behalf of our ſelves, and the reſt of mankind: among whom thou haſt left innumerable teſtimonies of thy careful providence, in that *thou doſt them good, and giveſt them rain from heaven, and fruitful ſeaſons, filling their hearts with food and gladneſs.* We praiſe thee, we bleſs thee, we magnifie and extol thy wiſe and powerful goodneſs, we thank thee for thy never ceaſing bounty towards us; eſpecially that thou haſt vouchſafed to ſend Jeſus Chriſt to reſtore us by his appearing among us, and his humbling himſelf to the death for us, and his glorious Reſurrection from the grave and Aſcenſion on high, to a bleſſed hope of thy mercy unto eternal life.

Act. 14. 17.

We

We can do no leſs than devote our ſelves, ſouls and bodies, eternally to thee: returning, what we have received from thee, back again with the greateſt love, and moſt grateful acknowledgements. Accept, we pray thee, O moſt gracious and merciful Father, of this ſmall oblation we make thee, of our moſt hearty and unfeigned reſolutions to worſhip and ſerve thee; in the conſtant exerciſe of righteouſneſs, mercy, meekneſs, patience, humility, and purity, with whatſoever is lovely and of good report. And we humbly beg thy holy Spirit may conſtantly accompany us; inabling us to think of theſe things, to cleave unto them, to delight in them, and to perſevere in a free and willing performance of all our duty towards thee and all men to our lives end.

And we moſt heartily deſire the reſt of mankind may at laſt be ſo happy as to come acquainted with the

the exceeding riches of thy grace in Chriſt. O that *thy way*
Pſal. 67. 2. *may be known upon earth,*
Rom. 15. 10. 6. *and thy ſaving health among all nations: that all the Gentiles may rejoyce with thy people, and we may with one mind and one mouth glorifie thee our God, even the Father of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt.* O that all Idolatry and ungodlineſs, all cruelty and filthineſs, all rapine and violence, may be aboliſhed and rooted out of the earth; and true piety, righteouſneſs, holineſs, and brotherly kindneſs may flouriſh in the room thereof. For which end we beſeech thee indue all Kings and Princes, eſpecially thoſe that are Chriſtian, with a great ſenſe of thy Soveraign Authority over all; that they may humbly obey thee, as they deſire others ſhould obey them; and govern all their people with great wiſdom, uprightneſs, and a tender compaſſionate care of their welfare. O that no covetouſneſs,

am-

ambition, or revenge may rule in any hearts, provoking them to war and bloudſhed: but there may be great peace in all Lands, by obſerving the holy Laws of the Prince of peace, Chriſt Jeſus.

More particularly we recommend unto thy bleſſing, theſe Kingdoms wherein we live: beſeeching thee to be merciful to our ſins, in giving us grace to repent of them, and to bring forth fruits meet for repentance and amendment of life. Bleſs our Soveraign, and all that are imployed under him, either in Spiritual or Civil affairs, with all thoſe graces which are neceſſary for the right diſcharge of their duties in ſuch high places. Proſper all their pious indeavours for the good either of mens ſouls, or outward eſtates; that true Religion and Vertue increaſing, and all ungodlineſs and vice being put to ſhame, we may become a renowned Nation, and a praiſe in the earth. We commend to thee alſo,

O Father of mercies, all thoſe who are in a diſtreſſed and ſorrowful condition: moſt earneſtly deſiring their ſeaſonable relief and comfort; with their releaſe from thoſe troubles, when thou pleaſeſt. And now that we are going to lay down our ſelves to ſleep, we put our ſelves and our habitations, with all that belong unto us, into thy moſt gracious protection: hoping thou wilt take care of us; when we cannot ſo much as think how to ſecure our ſelves from any danger that may approach us. Thou haſt been our helper, keeper, and defender, therefore under the ſhadow of thy wings will we ſtill rejoyce. When we cloſe our eyes, let theſe holy thoughts of thee, and affections towards thee, ſtill remain in us, and poſſeſs our hearts; that they may awake again with us in the morning, and ſend up our ſouls in renewed love, and thanks, and praiſe to thy divine

vine Majesty by our blessed Saviour and Redeemer Christ Jesus. In whose words we continue to implore thy mercies towards us.

Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name: Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread: And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us: And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, &c.

PRAYERS FOR FAMILIES.

SATURDAY MORNING.

O Lord; all thy works praise thee, and declare the greatness of thy Majesty, Power, Wisdom and Bounty which surpass all understanding. *Thou art good unto all, and thy tender mercies are over all thy works. Thou art holy in all thy ways, and righteous in all thy doings: and keepest truth for ever. Thy Kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and thy dominion endureth throughout all generations. We all decay and perish; the heavens themselves wax old like a gar-*

ment: but thou art the same, and thy years shall have no end.

We adore thee, O Lord most high, and most willingly joyn our hearts and voices this Morning together with all the host of heaven and earth, to laud and praise thy glorious Name; and give thanks unto thee, whose mercy endureth for ever. We think our selves happy that we know thee; and that we live under the care and providence of thine Almighty and most wise goodness; and that we have a good hope, not only of thy blessing and favour here, but of life for evermore. Blessed be thy Name for sending thy Son Jesus, to give us these hopes, by his Death, and Resurrection, and Ascension to heaven, and the coming of the holy Ghost. Blessed be thy Name who hast trained us up in his Religion, and given us the means and opportunities to know that love of thine which passes knowledge. We thank thee for all

the

the bleſſed operations and motions of thy holy Spirit in our hearts: and that thou haſt ſo early inclined us to fear thee, and love thee, and place our contentment and ſatisfaction in thy love and favour, which is better than life it ſelf. And that thou haſt alſo added a number of other mercies, for our comfortable ſubſiſtence in this world: having granted us ſo long health, peace and plenty; a great many friends, loving relations and acquaintance; and continued the enjoyment of them to this day; though we be ſo unworthy of the leaſt of thy favours. We thank thee, O God, that now thou haſt graciouſly renewed thy kindneſs unto us; in protecting us the laſt night from all the powers of darkneſs, and every evil accident; and raiſing us up this morning in health and ſafety to praiſe thy goodneſs.

More eſpecially we praiſe thee for any ſenſe we have of theſe thy mer-

cies: humbly waiting on thee for the increaſe of it, and for thy gracious pardon of all our unthankfulneſs and undutiful behaviour towards thee; which we moſt heartily bewail, and deſire, and will endeavour to amend.

And for that end we implore the help of thy holy Spirit, which our Lord hath incouraged us to ask of thee; and told us thou wilt not deny to thoſe that earneſtly ſeek it, and continue to knock importunately at the gate of Mercy for it. We believe all his promiſes to be faithful and true; and therefore humbly depend on thy mighty Power to ſtrengthen and inable us to do our duty towards thee, and towards all men; with care, and diligence, and zeal, and perſeverance to the end. Indue us, good Lord, with a ſpirit of true and fervent devotion, to thee our Creator and Redeemer: with upright, juſt, and charitable hearts to all our Neighbours: and

with

with temperate, contented and humble minds, in every condition and ſtate of life, unto which thou ſhalt pleaſe to call us.

Help us to be meek and gentle in our converſation; prudent and diſcreet in ordering all our affairs; good and uſeful in every relation; obſervant of thy fatherly providence in every thing that befals us; grateful for thy benefits; patient under thy chaſtiſements; and readily diſpoſed to every good word and work. Preſerve in us a conſtant remembrance of thine all-ſeeing eye; of the many promiſes and vows we have made of fidelity to thee; of thine inеſtimable love in Chriſt Jeſus, whereof thou haſt given us ſo many pledges; and of the great account we muſt give to him, the judge of all, at the day of his appearing: That ſo we may continue *ſteadfaſt and unmoveable, and be abundant in the work of the Lord; knowing that our labour ſhall not be*

in vain in the Lord. Deliver us, we beſeech thee, from all inordinate cares and deſires; from vain hopes and cauſeleſs fears; and ſo diſpoſe our hearts that death it ſelf may not be dreadful to us: but we may welcome it with a chearful countenance, when and howſoever it ſhall approach.

O that our hearts may be ſo firmly ſettled and eſtabliſhed in the true Religion, and our minds kept ſo free from all deluſions; that nothing may affright us, or ſhake our conſtancie: But we may rather chuſe to dye, than diſhonour our Saviour, who dyed for us. We reſign our ſelves to thy wiſdom and goodneſs, who knoweſt what is beſt for us: hoping thou wilt *never ſuffer us to be tempted above what we are able, and wilt with the temptation alſo make a way to eſcape, that we may be able to bear it.*

1 Corinth. 10. 13.

We commend unto thee, likewiſe, all

all mankind, eſpecially thy Church and choſen people: theſe Kingdoms more particularly, of which we are members; that we may be all faithful to our Lord Chriſt, and zealous of good works. Bleſs our Sovereign, his Councellors, his Miniſters, and all imployed in publick buſineſs, whether Spiritual or Civil; that they may be conſcientiouſly induſtrious, and whatſoever they do may proſper, for the good of all thoſe who are committed to their charge. Be gracious to all our friends, and thoſe who are dear unto us. Keep us all in thy fear, and love, and obedience while we live; and make us willing to dye, and to be with Chriſt which is beſt of all. Guide us, good Lord, and govern us by the ſame ſpirit of wiſdom and goodneſs, that we may be ſo united to thee here, as not to be eternally ſeparated, when thou art pleaſed to order our departure hence: But that we all at laſt may have an happy meeting in the other

and better world; to dwell with thee in love and joy, that ſhall never dye, through Chriſt Jeſus our bleſſed Lord and Saviour, in whoſe words we ſtill beſeech thee to hear us.

Our Father, &c.

At Night.

ALL honour and glory, thanks and praiſe, love and ſervice be rendred by us, and all other reaſonable creatures to thy great and glorious Majeſty, O Lord; who haſt brought us into the world; and preſerved our life moſt tenderly to this moment; and made it eaſie and comfortable to us by more mercies than we can number. And to all the former haſt added thoſe of this day, which we have paſſed in peace, and health, and ſafety; bleſſed be thy

thy never-ceasing goodness. Above all we acknowledge thy unconceiveable love in Christ Jesus, by whom thou hast made a gracious provision for our souls, and their everlasting happiness in the other world: Having sent him to us with the promises of eternal life; and to be the Way and Director to it; and given him to dye, that he might seal his promises with his blood; and raised him again from the dead; that our faith and hope might be in thee, O God.

Eye had not seen, nor ear heard, neither did enter into the heart of man the things which thou hast prepared for them that love thee. We love thee, O Lord, and give our selves, both souls and bodies to thee: most earnestly desiring to be inspired with such a sense of thy infinite goodness, that we may love thee more, and serve thee better; with all our heart, and with all our soul, and with all our strength. 1 Cor. 2. 9.

We confess we have not walked worthy

worthy of the great benefits we have received; and therefore may juſtly fear thou ſhouldeſt withhold thy tender mercies, and ſhut up thy loving kindneſs in diſpleaſure. But the deſires and holy reſolutions thou haſt wrought and continueſt in our ſouls, to amend and become ſtill more fruitful in all good works, incourage us to hope in thee for pardon through the bloud of Jeſus Chriſt; and for the aſſiſtance of thy holy Spirit, to inable us to accompliſh that which we intend and purpoſe, to grow more and more in wiſdom and knowledge, and in righteouſneſs and true holineſs. O that this Image of thine may appear every day fairer and more beautiful before thee, and in the ſight of all men! That ſo we may adorn the Religion we profeſs; and be a good Example unto others; and have a ſolid foundation of peace and comfort in our own hearts; and be able to hope in thee for thy future mercy

mercy in Chriſt Jeſus, even unto eternal life.

We commend our ſelves to thy wonted grace; and in a ſenſe of what thou haſt done already for us, and what thou haſt promiſed to do, depend on thy goodneſs for what thou ſeeſt profitable and conducing to our chiefeſt good: referring our ſelves wholly to thy wiſe will and pleaſure; and reſolved contentedly to ſubmit to thy appointments, thankfully to receive thy mercies, and to reſt ſatisfied with our portion, whatſoever it be that thou ordereſt for us. Make us but ſteadfaſt in thy faith and love, unwearied in well doing, patient and conſtant under all ſufferings, full of a lively hope in thy mercy, and willing to dye when and as thou pleaſeſt; and we have enough.

In confidence that thou heareſt us, and art every where, and never ſlumbereſt nor ſleepeſt; we commit our ſelves to the cuſtody of thy watch-

watchful providence this night: to be ſecured and protected by thee, when we cannot at all attend to our own preſervation. May it pleaſe thy goodneſs to give this whole family a comfortable reſt and repoſe; to defend this habitation, and all about us from fire and ſuch like ſad accidents; to deliver us from the power of evil ſpirits, and of evil men; and to raiſe us in health and chearfulneſs to praiſe thee, and to glorifie thee, both in ſoul and body the next day. *Then will we ſing of thy power; yea, we will ſing aloud of thy mercy in the morning: becauſe thou haſt been our defence, and our refuge at all times. Unto thee, O our ſtrength, will we ſing: for God is our defence, and the God of our mercy. We will praiſe the Lord with our whole heart, in the aſſembly of the upright, and in the congregation. For it is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, and*

Pſal. 59. 16, 17.

111. 1.

92. 1, 2.

and to ſing praiſes unto thy name, O moſt High: to ſhew forth thy loving kindneſs in the morning, and thy faithfulneſs every night.

The earth is thine, and the fulneſs thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein. 24. 1.

Let all the people praiſe thee, O God; let all the people praiſe thee. O that all the ends of the world would remember and turn unto the Lord; and all the kindreds of the Nations worſhip before him. For the kingdom is the Lords; and he is the governour among the Nations. 22. 27, 28.

Bleſs eſpecially all Chriſtian Kings and Princes; that it may *be an abomination to them to commit wickedneſs; and their thrones may be eſtabliſhed by righteouſneſs.* Prov. 16. 12. And incline the hearts of all thoſe who have any authority in theſe Kingdoms to love and hold faſt thy true Religion, and to live according to to it; that *by mercy and truth the king may be* 20. 28.

pre-

preſerved; and his throne be upholden by mercy.

We heartily deſire the eaſe, peace and ſatisfaction of all thoſe who are in pain, trouble, and perplexity: and that all poor miſerable people may find ſupply of their wants from thy bounty, and the charity of thoſe on whom thou haſt beſtowed plenty and abundance. We humbly alſo wait for thy bleſſing upon all our Relations and Friends: truſting in thee for ſuch a meaſure of health, and all other good things, as thou judgeſt uſeful for us; and eſpecially that the Lord Jeſus *will deliver us from every evil work, and preſerve us to his heavenly kingdom: To whom be glory for ever and ever.* Amen.

1 Tim. 4. 8.

Our Father, &c.

A

A ſhorter Morning Prayer for any day in the week, when there is not time, by reaſon of ſome extraordinary occaſions, for the other.

O Moſt great and glorious God, the Soveraign of the World: Upon whom we continually depend; to whom we owe all the love, the ſervice, and the praiſe that we are able to render to all eternity. We adore thy infinite mercy, from whence we have received ſo many bleſſings for the comfort of this life; and by which we have a ſure Hope of good things, in the life to come. Bleſſed be thy goodneſs, which hath not ſuffered us to wander without inſtruction, after the fooliſh deſires of our own hearts: but hath clearly ſhown

ſhown us where our happineſs lyes. We receive with all thankfulneſs thoſe holy words, which teach us the bleſſedneſs of poverty and contentedneſs of ſpirit; of meekneſs and humility of mind; of hungering and thirſting after righteouſneſs; of mercifulneſs and purity of heart; of peaceableneſs, and patient ſuffering, for doing the will of our Lord Chriſt.

O that we may have grace to labour alway to be in the number of thoſe bleſſed Souls, that never ſet their hearts on any thing ſo much, as theſe heavenly vertues! O that we may ever think and feel our ſelves happy, in the comfort of thoſe great and precious promiſes, of being made the children of the higheſt, the heirs of the Kingdom of Heaven, and at laſt of ſeeing thee our God. It ſuffices, O Lord, that we have theſe glorious hopes hereafter: which make us believe, thou wilt not let us want what is neceſ-

ſary

ſary for us, whilſt we continue here. We commend our ſelves, with an humble confidence, to thy watchful providence this day: beſeeching thee to guide and aſſiſt us, that in all our deſires, words and actions, we may keep our ſelves innocent, and undefiled before thee; and be diſpoſed to do all good, as we have opportunity.

And we heartily deſire that all mankind may be filled with the ſame devotion to thee: and eſpecially that all Chriſtian people may gloriſie thy Name, and be joyful in thee. And the greater any are in Dignity and Power, raiſe their ſpirits to the greater pitch of Wiſdom, Mercy and Piety: that they may right thoſe that ſuffer wrong; and defend thoſe that have no helper; and provide for the eaſe and comfort of all miſerable creatures; to the utmoſt of their power. In this ardent charity we commit both ſouls and bodies to thee; beſeeching thee

to

to increaſe our love to thee, and to all men, till we be fit to be tranſlated to the region of love and joy, and perfect ſatisfaction, through Chriſt Jeſus: who hath taught us, when we pray, to ſay

Our Father, &c.

Another ſhort Prayer for the Morning.

O Bleſſed God; be thou acknowledged, praiſed and loved by us, and all the children of men; on whom thou poureſt continually thy benefits. They are great and many: we know not the ſumme, nor underſtand the value of them. The Angels themſelves admired thy love to us in Chriſt Jeſus; and are become miniſtring Spirits to them, who are heirs of Salvation. We enjoy the continual fruits of thy watch-

watchful providence; by which we have been kept in peace and ſafety the laſt night, and are raiſed this morning in health and ſtrength, both of body and mind: beholding all things belonging to us, juſt as we left them with thee, when we went to ſleep.

Accept, we moſt humbly beſeech thee, of this poor tribute of praiſe and thanks; together with the hearty oblation of our ſouls and bodies, which we here dedicate again to thy ſervice. Vouchſafe us the continued aſſiſtance of the grace of thy holy Spirit; to inable us to make good thoſe vows that are upon us, *of obediently keeping thy holy will and commandments, and walking in the ſame all the days of our life.* Pardon, good Lord, all our breaches of this Sacred Covenant. Deal not with us according to our ſins, neither reward us after our iniquities: But in the multitude of thy tender mercies pitty our errors and wandrings;

drings; and help us againſt our infirmities.

Give us leave this day to put our ſelves into thy powerful protection, and to depend on thee for thy merciful guidance and aſſiſtance; that we may be more faithful to thee in the diſcharge of our duties, and never ſwerve from the rules of Sobriety, Righteouſneſs, Charity and Godlineſs. So ſhall we return with joyful hearts to praiſe thee in the Evening: and teach thoſe who ſhall come after us, to continue thy praiſes in the next generation. Amen, for thy mercies ſake in Chriſt Jeſus; in whoſe words we preſent the earneſt deſires of our hearts for our ſelves, and all our Brethren; ſaying

Our Father, &c.

A ſhort Prayer for the Evening, when there is not time for the longer.

O God; we thy creatures, who have taſted liberally of thy bounty many ways; and been bleſſed in our ſeveral imployments, and mercifully preſerved from ſeveral dangers this day; are here met to joyn together, in moſt hearty thankſgivings to thy divine Majeſty; which with one accord we offer up unto thee. It is the greateſt happineſs of all, we acknowledge, that we have any ſenſe of thee in our minds; any love to thee in our hearts; any remembrance of thy benefits; any holy diſpoſitions to obey thee; and any hopes that thou wilt pardon our ſins, and make us partakers of eternal life.

All that we deſire of thee, O Lord, is the continuance and increaſe of this

this happineſs; that we may be poſſeſſed with a ſtronger ſenſe of thy Majeſty, thy Soveraign Power, thy unſearchable Wiſdom, Goodneſs and Truth; and be filled with a more ardent love to thee, and to all righteouſneſs; and delight to do thy Will in every thing, and rejoyce in hope of thy immortal Glory. As for all the things of this life, in a grateful remembrance of thy many paſt mercies, we intirely truſt thee for the time to come: referring our ſelves to thy Wiſdom, and reſolving to be content with that portion, which thy good providence is pleaſed to aſſign us. Help us but to be ſteadfaſt and unmoveable in the work of our Lord, to bring forth all the fruits of the Spirit, love, joy, peace, long-ſuffering, gentleneſs, goodneſs, faith, meekneſs and temperance; and we ſhall think our ſelves rich enough, and well provided for in every ſtate and condition of life.

In theſe holy thoughts and deſires we

ve commend our ſelves to thy gra-
cious protection this night; hoping
o find them freſh and lively in our
ſouls, when we awake in the Morn-
ing: and deſiring withal the happi-
neſs of the reſt of the world, that
they may know thee, and acknow-
ledge thee, and be guided unto,
and walk in the way that leads to
everlaſting life, through Chriſt Je-
ſus our bleſſed Redeemer. In whoſe
powerful name, and comprehenſive
words, we continue to pray as he
hath taught us; ſaying

Our Father, &c.

Another for the Evening.

IN an humble and thankful ſenſe,
O Lord of heaven and earth, of
our intire dependence on thee, and
of the duty we owe thee, and the
many promiſes and vows wherein we

ſtand ingaged to thee, we fall down before thee, this Evening, and with all reverence worſhip thy divine Majeſty: Giving thee the glory that is due unto thy Name, and acknowledging thy multiplied mercies to us, particularly thoſe of this day; to the concluſion of which thou haſt now ſafely brought us, with new reſolutions in our hearts to continue for ever in thy faith, and fear, and love, and obedience.

It is but juſt and reaſonable, and we feel likewiſe, by daily experience, that it is our happineſs, to keep thy Commandments; and to maintain chearful thoughts of thee, and an hearty friendſhip with thee, by complying in all things with thy holy Will. O pardon our folly, moſt gracious God, in forſaking at any time that perfect Rule, to follow our own unruly deſires. Pardon us, we beſeech thee, for we know not how to pardon our ſelves ſuch ingratitude to thee, and cruelty

to

to our selves. It is the grief of our hearts, that we have, in the least, offended thee; and our most earnest, unfeigned desire to be preserved hereafter in an exact conformity to our Rule in every thing. Yea, we would delight to do thy Will, O God, and take such a pleasure in all the acts of righteousness, mercy, meekness, and gentleness to our Neighbours; and in praising and acknowledging thee the God of all grace; and in living in an humble sense of thy bounty and our own undeservings, and in a temperate and thankful use of all thy blessings; that we may have the continual feast of a good conscience, and the constant comfort and satisfaction of having thee alway for our friend, and our gracious Father in Christ Jesus.

O thou who art the Inspirer of such holy counsels, desires and purposes, keep them for ever in our hearts. Incourage, strengthen and increase them; that after the refresh-

ment of a quiet ſleep this night, we may feel them lively and powerful in the Morning: and with renewed joy we may ſtill devote our ſelves to thy faithful ſervice. O that our friends, and all thy people in every place, may partake of the ſame mercies we deſire for our ſelves: and howſoever we are ſevered one from another in this world, grant us an happy meeting at the day of our Lord, in whoſe words we pray thee to hear us.

Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name: Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread: And forgive us our treſpaſſes, as we forgive them that treſpaſs againſt us: And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, &c.

PRAYERS

PRAYERS
For particular
PERSONS.

A Prayer for the Morning to be said by any Person alone.

O Most holy, bleſſed and glorious Majeſty of heaven and earth. Who art before all things; becauſe they all received their being from thee; and who art of thy ſelf, infinite in all perfections. Before thee, who art ſo great and incomprehenſible, I moſt humbly proſtrate my ſelf this Morning; rejoycing in this happy liberty which thou vouchſafeſt me, of retiring my thoughts a little from this world, to look up unto thee, the

Father of my being. I adore and praise thy eternal Power, Wisdom and Goodness. I heartily acknowledge the duty which I owe thee, both as I am thy creature, and as I am a Christian. I bewail all my neglects of it, my backwardness unto it, or coldness in it. I intreat thy gracious pardon, and ingage my self, for the time to come, more heartily and firmly to thy obedience: beseeching the grace of thy holy Spirit to inable me to perform all those ingagements which are upon me. And blessed be thy Fatherly goodness, which hath so often prevented me with that grace. I owe to it all the good thoughts and inclinations that are in my heart; all those motions that I feel in my soul towards thee, as my chiefest good; with all the effects and fruits of them in my life and actions: which incourage me to hope in thee for the constant help of it, to further me in well doing unto the end.

O thou who haſt ſent thy Son from heaven to dwell among us, who haſt not ſpared his life, but given him up for us all, who haſt raiſed him from the dead, and made him heir of all things, who haſt given him all power in heaven and earth, that he may bleſs us and do us good; deny not the deſires of a ſoul, that offers up it ſelf intirely in ſincere affection to thy ſervice. But aſſiſt me ſo mightily from above, that I may make thee my conſtant acknowledgements likewiſe, for the ſenſible fruits of his Life, Death, Reſurrection, and Exaltation produced in my heart: growing more and more in all Wiſdom, Righteouſneſs, Purity, Humility, Goodneſs, and every other divine Vertue. For which end preſerve me alway in ſuch a ſerious temper of mind, that the ſenſe of my duty to thee, may make me always ready and forward to it; and the ſenſe of my weakneſs, may make me watchful and diligent; and

the ſenſe of my former negligence, make me fervent in ſpirit; and the goodneſs of thy commands may render me more fruitful and abundant in the work of our Lord; and the great danger I have eſcaped, and the bleſſedneſs before me, may make me perſevere moſt patiently in all well doing, with joy and thankfulneſs. So that I may be like to Chriſt Jeſus my gracious Lord and Maſter, and do him honour here in this world, and walk worthy of the great priviledges he hath beſtowed on me, and make grateful returns for all the vaſt receipts I have had from thy moſt bounteous mercy. O that all my acknowledgements, and pious affections may be turned into actions of holineſs and piety; and all my actions may be ſpirited with zeal; and all my zeal be regulated with prudence; and my prudence be void of all guile, and joyned with perfect integrity of heart: that adorning my moſt holy faith and profeſſion by a re-

religious, upright, charitable, and discreet conversation whilst I am here, I may receive approbation and praise, at the day of the Lord Jesus; and be numbered among thy Saints in glory everlasting.

This, O Lord, is the sum of all my desires. Dispose me, by every thing that befals me, for eternal life, and it sufficeth. I wholly leave my concerns in this life to the wisdom of thy goodness; that thou mayst order what thou judgest to be fittest for me. I trust thee with my self, and all I have: hoping thou wilt preserve me from all things hurtful, and lead me to all things profitable for my salvation.

The like I wish to all the world; that unbelievers may be translated out of the kingdom of darkness, into the Kingdom of thy dear Son; and they who are called by the name of Christ, may depart from all iniquity. Inspire all Kings and Princes of the earth, with great wisdom and

charity; and make them like to thee, the Lord of all: who art good unto all, and pleased in mercy. Indue all our Pastors and Guides with true knowledge, piety and zeal; and give me, and all Christian people grace to receive their instructions with a meek, humble and obedient heart. Thou knowest the sorrows, troubles and perplexities of all afflicted persons; for whom I implore thy compassionate relief. Support them with a lively faith and hope in thy precious promises; dispose them thereby to a more strict observance of thy holy Commands; and convert their present sufferings into endless joys; when they have brought forth the peaceable fruit of righteousness. And whilst thou art pleased to continue to me that ease, plenty and prosperity which I enjoy; fill me with such a sense of thy undeserved goodness, that I may be the more ready to do good to those, who are in misery;

sery; and by a sober and moderate use of thy blessings, be prepared to endure patiently whatsoever change, thou shalt be pleased to order for me, into a worse condition. Preserve me all this day in innocence, and in love to thee, and to all men. And since in all my ways I acknowledge thee; do thou direct my paths, and teach me to guide my affairs with discretion. Thou art my hope and my confidence; my satisfaction and my peace; my glory and my joy; therefore never leave me nor forsake me, but conduct me safely by thy counsel through all the businesses and enjoyments, through all the temptations and troubles of this life, to that blessed place where our Lord Jesus liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the same spirit, world without end. *Amen.*

Prov. 3. 6. Psal. 112. 5.

Our Father, &c.

A Prayer for the Evening.

O Lord, the Creator of the world, and the Redeemer of mankind. Who knoweſt all things; and canſt do what thou pleaſeſt; and wilt do that which is beſt for thy children; and haſt done us a world of good already; and promiſed to do more for us, if we be obedient, than we can ask or think; and haſt given us the greateſt aſſurance of the truth of thoſe promiſes by thy Son Jeſus; who dyed for us, and whom thou haſt raiſed from the dead, and given him the promiſe of the holy Ghoſt, which he hath poured forth abundantly, to ſhed abroad thy love in our hearts. I fall down before thee in the lowlieſt manner, to expreſs my fear and reverence of thy Almighty Power; my admiration of and ſubmiſſion to thy unſearchable wiſdom; my hearty love, and thankful acknowledgement of thy

thy wondrous goodness; my trust and confidence in thy faithful Promises; with my readiness and sincere purposes to perform all obedience to thy holy Commands.

There is nothing, O Lord, so afflictive to me, as the remembrance that I have any time offended thy Soveraign Authority. I am heartily sorry for the breaking of any of thy sacred, righteous and good Laws. I abhorr the thoughts of doing so again. And protest eternal enmity to all that is contrary to thy blessed Will: addicting my self with most hearty affection to thy true and faithful service. Pardon me therefore, most gracious and merciful Father, and accept these holy resolutions which thou hast inspired me withal. Strengthen, I beseech thee, and further them with thy continued grace, that no sudden desires, vehement inclinations, ineffectual purposes, no nor partial performances, may deceive and lead me into a false opinion of my

my ſelf: but I may bring forth actually, and with a conſtant ſpirit, all the fruits of righteouſneſs, which are by Chriſt Jeſus to the praiſe and glory of thee, my God. Poſſeſs me with ſuch a deep and ſtrong ſenſe of thy ſupreme Authority over all, of the obligations I have to thee, and the great kindneſs thou haſt done me in ingaging me to be thy ſervant; that Religion may be the very buſineſs of my life, and my greateſt pleaſure may be to pleaſe thee in every thing, and my higheſt deſign to attain that bleſſed immortality, which Chriſt Jeſus hath promiſed.

O lift up my affections more and more to thoſe things above, where he is: That heaven may have my heart, while this world hath my body; and I may have perfect contentment of mind in well doing and patient ſuffering; and the good hope I have of being eternally beloved of thee, the Lord of hea-

ven

ven and earth, may make me rejoyce evermore. Free me from all inordinate cares for the things of this life; from all distrust of thy good providence; from all repining at any thing that befals me: and inable me in every thing to give thanks; believing that all things are ordered by the greatest reason, and shall work together for good to those that love thee. I doubt not of thy Fatherly affection to those that study, in all sincerity, to approve themselves unto thee: and therefore still resolve to leave my self intirely to thy wise Counsels, that thou mayst dispose me into such a condition as thou seest best in this world. Remember me but of my duty; quicken and excite me to it; strengthen me in the doing of it; support me under all discouragements; advise me in all difficult cases; and comfort me with a steadfast belief of thy holy Word; and I shall ever be giving thanks and praise unto

unto thee, who dealeſt ſo bountifully with me.

Into thy hands I commend this night, both ſoul and body, which have been mercifully preſerved in ſafety all this day. I repoſe my ſelf in the belief of thy watchful providence; and that thou giveſt thy Angels charge of us, and art about our beds, and about our paths, and ſpieſt out all our thoughts. O continue theſe holy thoughts and deſires in me till I fall aſleep: that thou mayſt have a ſoul full of love to thee in thy cuſtody; and I may receive the light of the Morning, if thou prolongeſt my life, with new joy in thee, and thankful affection to thee.

I moſt heartily deſire likewiſe, O merciful God, the good of the whole world. Pitty the follies of mankind: deliver them from their ſins, and from their miſeries. Hear the groans of every part of the creature, that is yet ſubject to the bondage

dage of corruption, and bring them all into the glorious liberty of thy children. Hear the daily prayers of the Catholick Church. Free her from all foul and dividing errors: Let the Truth, as it is in Jesus, prevail; and peace be in all her borders. O that all Christian Kings and Governours, may follow after peace and insue it. Make thy Ministers the Messengers of peace: and dispose the hearts of all Christians to keep the Unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. Inlighten the minds of all Jews, Turks and Infidels with the knowledge of thy Truth. Give repentance unto sinners; and increase of grace and strength to all thy faithful servants. Reduce those that wander out of the way: raise up those who are faln: confirm and settle those that stand; and grant them a steadfast resolution to persevere in faith, love and obedience. Relieve and comfort all those that are in any distress. Make the earth

to

to bring forth her increaſe in due ſeaſon. And let all honeſt and induſtrious people be ſucceeded and bleſſed in their labours. Remember all thoſe to whom I am indebted for my birth, education, inſtruction or promotion: Thou who art rich in mercy, reward and recompence their care and love. Grant forgiveneſs and charity to all my enemies. Continue good will among all my kind Neighbours. Aſſiſt thoſe who are dying and leaving this world. Fit them for a better place; receive the ſouls which thou haſt redeemed with thy Sons moſt precious bloud, and ſanctified by the holy Ghoſt; and give us all a glorious reſurrection and eternal life. *Amen, Amen.*

Our Father, &c.

A shorter Prayer to be used by any one alone in the Morning.

I Adore thee, O Lord, the possessor of heaven and earth; who surpassest all our thoughts, and dost us good beyond all our desires. There is all reason, that I should acknowledge thee continually; that I should worship, and praise, and love, and obey thee, whilst I have my being. I cannot but witness against my self, whensoever I neglect thee; much more when I oppose thy most high Authority, by doing contrary to thy Laws. For thy Almighty Goodness gave me my being; and by that alone have I been maintained and liberally provided for: yea, it hath born with me very patiently in my rebellion, and used extraordinary means to make us friends, and ceases not its intreaties after many unkind denials; but continues

to

to importune me, till my heart consent to yield it self intirely to thee.

I cannot withhold my self, O Lord, from thee, when I consider what thou art, and what thou hast been to me: such a tender, gracious and compassionate Father, as my greatest affections cannot find words to express. I must again surrender soul and body into thy hands, which have been so long, so lovingly stretched out towards me: resolving to stay with thee, and never to depart away from thee. For the more I know of thee, the more I find that I must needs love thee: and the more I love thee, the more I desire to love thee, and to resemble thee, and to be beloved of thee. O that I may feel the power of thy love so great in my heart, that it may govern the rest of my passions and affections: and nothing in the world may tempt me to displease thee, but every thing provoke me more

to

to love thee, and delight in thee, and obey thee. *For whom is there in heaven that I can desire but thee, or on earth besides thee? who art the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and the Lord of lords; who only hast immortality:* and designest by thy Son Jesus to raise us sinful dust and ashes, to a kingdom, glory, honour, and immortality in the heavens. I most earnestly beseech thee that this sense of thee, may accompany me whereſoever I go, and in whatsoever I do this day. That approving my self to thee in such a godly, sober, righteous, charitable and prudent behaviour, as may adorn the Gospel of my Lord and Master Christ Jesus; I may have a greater assurance of thy good will towards me, and an undoubted hope of thy mercy in him to eternal life. In whose most blessed name and words I humbly recommend my self, my friends, and all

thy

thy ſervants to thy infinite charity, ſaying as he hath taught us.

Our Father, &c.

Another for the Evening.

BLeſſing, Glory, Honour and Praiſe be again returned to thee, O Father of mercy, from a moſt thankful heart; which offers up it ſelf alſo in holy devotion to thee. Who art my Soveraign Lord, my moſt loving Saviour, my Deliverer and Benefactor; the Fountain of all the good things I enjoy at preſent, and the hope of my ſoul for ever and ever. Bleſſed be thy renewed kindneſs to me this day paſt; both to my ſelf and my relations, to my ſoul and my body, in my tranſactions with men, and in the liberty thou alloweſt me of addreſſes to thy ſelf. Pardon, good Lord, whatſoever hath

hath escaped me in thought, word or deed, contrary to my duty: And accept of those sincere intentions, and unfeigned purposes, which were, and I hope shall always be, in my heart, to study to approve my self to thee in all well doing.

It is but just and reasonable that I should follow thy will, and not my own; and in a grateful sense of what I have received from thee, I ought to be moved to imploy all the powers of my soul and body for thee. But such is the goodness of thy will, that it is for my ease and pleasure, and greatest happiness, to be absolutely led and governed by it. I am sensible, O Lord, how much I am indebted to thee for teaching me by Christ Jesus, and also strongly obliging me, to exercise my self to all godliness, purity, righteousness, humility, goodness and truth. And accordingly I thank thee, above all things, for his holy instructions and example; for the hope

hope thou haſt given us by his bloud that thou wilt be ſo merciful to our ſins, as not to deny us the power of thy holy Spirit to inable us to follow him, and obey his commands; and for that exceeding great and precious promiſe which he hath given us of immortal life, to incourage us to follow him willingly and cheatfully, even to the death. O that I may feel a lively and ſteadfaſt faith in his Word, continually working with great power in my heart; exciting me to an unwearied diligence, and zeal, and love, and patient continuance in my duty towards thee, and towards all men: That ſo my hope in thee may grow and increaſe, and I may joyfully expect that hour which ſhall tranſlate me hence to the eternal happineſs of the other world. And during my ſtay here, I commend my ſelf to thy good providence, which hath hitherto been ſo tender of me. I truſt thee wholly with my ſelf, and all belonging to me: and am willing

willing in every thing to be disposed of, as thou seest good. This night I fly unto thy Almighty protection; hoping thou wilt keep me safely, and whether I awake in this or the other life, I shall still be praising thee; whose Mercy endureth for ever. *Amen*; for Christ Jesus his sake; by whom thou hast incouraged me to hope in thee, and taught me to call thee father; saying,

Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name: Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread: And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us: And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, &c.

THat time which is wont to be ſpent in the Church, in talking or looking about, before Divine Service begin; may be better imployed in private Prayer, to diſpoſe us to joyn with greater ſeriouſneſs in the Publick. And indeed our buſineſs being there with God alone, and that place being ſeparated to his ſervice only; the cuſtom, which now univerſally prevails, of entertaining diſcourſe one with another, is very undecent (to ſay no worſe) and ought to be reformed. We have other times and places enow to confer with our neighbours; and therefore have no temptation to pervert the uſe of this: which is ſet apart for devout intercourſe with God, and none elſe, by ſpeaking to him in Prayer and Praiſes, and hearing him ſpeak to us in his holy Word. It is fit to ſilence all other ſpeech; and therefore here follow ſome helps for that purpoſe: which I hope all good Chriſtians will indeavour to uſe, or imitate; and not deſpiſe this loving admonition.

Pri-

Private PRAYERS IN THE CHURCH.

A ſhort Prayer before Divine Service begins.

BEhold, O Lord of heaven and earth, a Soul proſtrate before thee; deſirous to be filled with ſuch an awful ſenſe of thy divine Majeſty, that no other thing may interpoſe it ſelf, while I am in thy preſence. Fix my inconſtant thoughts in a ſteadfaſt attention to thy moſt holy Word. Inſpire me with devout affections, when I ſet forth thy praiſe, and render thanks for all thy benefits. And excite in me ſuch fervent deſires for all thoſe things, which I ask of thee; that I may feel

my ſelf better diſpoſed by theſe addreſſes to thee, to every Chriſtian duty the reſt of this day; through Chriſt Jeſus our Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

Another.

IN an humble and thankful ſenſe of thine infinite goodneſs, which honoureth us ſo much as to ſpeak to us, and gives us leave to ſpeak to thee; I bow down my ſelf before thee, O moſt high and holy Lord, the Creator of the world, deſiring my mind may be poſſeſſed with ſuch great thoughts of thee, whom the heaven of heavens cannot contain, and who openeſt thy hand and filleſt all things with good, that I may moſt reverently worſhip thee; and affectionately acknowledge thy bounty; and ſet my heart open to receive thy holy Word; and my mouth may praiſe thee with joy-

ful

ful lips. Silence all other thoughts and desires in me, while I am here in thy presence. And lift up my heart so towards heaven, that I may feel it united to that glorious company above; who perpetually praise thee, and rejoyce in thee, and do thy Commandments, hearkning to the voice of thy Word. Which I humbly beg in the name of Christ Jesus, which is ever dear unto thee; and by whom thou hast promised to hear us. *Amen.*

Or those words of the Prophet David *(which you read,* Psal. 5. 7. 17. 1. 118. 28. 119. 47, 48, *&c.) may be a little altered, in this manner:*

IN the multitude of thy mercy I am come into thy house: and in thy fear will I worship toward thy holy place. Attend unto my cry, O Lord, and give ear unto my Prayer that goeth not out of feigned

lips. Thou art my God, and I will praiſe thee; thou art my God, and I will exalt thee. And I will delight my ſelf in thy Commandments which I have loved. My hands alſo will I lift up to thy commandments which I have loved: and I will meditate in thy ſtatutes. Let thy tender mercies come alſo unto me, O Lord; even thy Salvation according to thy Word. Look upon me, and be merciful unto me, as thou uſeſt to do to thoſe that love thy Name. Order my ſteps in thy Word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me. *Amen.*

A longer Prayer in the Church, when there is time for it, before the beginning of divine Service.

I Caſt down my ſelf, O Lord, in an holy fear and humble adoration of thine incomprehenſible Majeſty,

jesty, who filleſt heaven and earth; but delighteſt to make thy ſelf more peculiarly preſent to thoſe that acknowledge and praiſe thee, and are deſirous to be filled with a conſtant ſenſe of thee, and intire love to thee. Bleſſed be thy infinite goodneſs, which hath incouraged ſuch wretches, as I am, by the declaration of thy good will to us in Chriſt Jeſus, by thy moſt gracious invitations and precious promiſes, and by the long experience I have had of thy kindneſs, to approach unto thee, O Lord moſt High.

I accept moſt thankfully of this *freedom* and liberty *of acceſs with confidence by the faith of Jeſus*; and am here to joyn with the reſt of thy ſervants, in extolling and magnifying thy eternal Power, Wiſdom and Goodneſs; in giving thanks to thee for thy innumerable bleſſings; in hearing thy moſt holy Word; and making our humble ſupplications, for the continuance of thy unde-

ſerved grace and favour towards us. Compoſe mine and every one of our thoughts, to the moſt ſilent admiration of thee: Strike our Spirits with a reverend apprehenſion of the ſurpaſſing greatneſs and glory of thy Majeſty: Raiſe our affections to the higheſt pitch of love and gratitude to thee: bow our wills to the moſt chearful ſubmiſſion to all thy holy commands: and touch us with an unſpeakable joy, when we read and hear thy exceeding great and precious promiſes.

Vouchſafe, moſt loving Father, the power of thy holy Spirit to attend upon me; to draw my mind from all other things, and to give me ſuch a lively taſte of the pleaſures of thy houſe, as may make me ever delight to attend upon thee here, and walk with thee, in every other place, with a perfect heart. That ſo my own *heart not condemning me, I may have more and more confidence towards thee,*

that

that whatsoever I ask I shall receive of thee; because I keep thy commandments, and do those things which are pleasing in thy sight. O my God, truly my soul waiteth upon thee; from thee cometh my salvation. Hear my cry, O God, and attend unto my prayer, for the honour of our Lord Jesus, and the love thou beareſt to him; who hath bid us ask, and we ſhall receive; ſeek, and we ſhall find; knock, and it ſhall be opened unto us. Let it be to thy ſervant, I moſt ardently beſeech thee, according to his Word. *Amen.*

1 Joh. 3. 21, 22.

Pſal. 62. 1. 61. 1.

Another more large.

O Lord of heaven and earth, who art infinite and incomprehenſible in thy being, eternal in thy du-

ration, and unchangeable in thy Nature: who canſt do what thou wilt; and delighteſt in doing us good. By thy Power I and all creatures were made; by thy Wiſdom we are govern'd; by thy Goodneſs and Bounty we are provided for; under thy Soveraign Dominion we live; and unto thy Majeſty we owe all reverence, ſervice and faithful obedience. I adore and humbly worſhip thee. I acknowledge my ſelf bound by innumerable tyes to fear thee, to love thee, to praiſe thee, and to ſerve thee with all my heart, and ſoul, and ſtrength. Bleſſed be thy Goodneſs that I have any hope, thou wilt accept of ſuch a worthleſs thing as my love. Bleſſed be thy Goodneſs. I admire at the riches of thy Grace, that thou doſt not reject all the ſervice that I can tender thee. Nay, it is to be aſcribed to this alone, that I am alive to worſhip thee, and have the doors of thy houſe ſtand open to me; and that I have any heart

to

to enter into it, to offer up ſpiritual Sacrifices by Chriſt Jeſus.

O God, I offer thee here my whole ſelf, which is all due to thee, becauſe I received it all from thee: beſeeching thee moſt earneſtly to make me feel that I am not mine own any longer, but thine; by taking off my thoughts and affections from all other things at this preſent, and filling me with ſuch a reverend apprehenſion of thee, ſuch hearty devotion to thee, and heavenly joy in thee; that I may every day offer up my ſelf to thee more holy and more pure, more meek and merciful, more humble and thankful, more chearfully diſpoſed to every good work, and better prepared to bear a part in the praiſes and ſervices of the glorious company above.

Thou knoweſt the weakneſs of our nature, how ſoon our thoughts are tyred and apt to ſtart aſide when we direct them towards heaven: Vouchſafe me therefore the aſſiſtance

of

of thy holy Spirit to compoſe my mind to the moſt ſerious, the moſt earneſt, the moſt devout and chearful attention, in all the parts of thy Divine Service. That I may have the livelieſt ſenſe of thy glorious perfections when I praiſe thee; and the moſt delightful remembrance of thy Mercies, when I give thee thanks; and the moſt thirſty deſires to be conformed to thy Will; and to feel more and more the influences of thy Grace, when I hear thy holy Word, and preſent my prayers and ſupplications before thee.

Accept, O bleſſed God, of this good will and ſincere affection that I have to thy ſervice; though performed with broken and diſtracted thoughts, and with too great liſtleſſneſs and dulneſs of ſpirit. And help me continually to out-grow this weakneſs, and to preſent thee with an heart more quiet, calm and fit to receive thee; more perfect and intire in ardent love to thee; and more

more ſetled and fixed in thee, as its chiefeſt joy and happineſs. That ſo all the reſt of the actions of my life may be a more conſtant and even performance of my duty, according to the command and example of my bleſſed Lord and Maſter Chriſt Jeſus. In whoſe name it is that I am bold to approach into thy preſence: believing the Power and Authority thou haſt given him over all, to bleſs us, and to do for us exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think. By him be glory unto thee, O Father Almighty, in the Church, throughout all ages, world without end. *Amen.*

At

At the concluſion of Divine Service after theſe words, The grace of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, *&c.*

Say, Amen, *with the heartieſt and moſt earneſt affection. And add ſome ſuch words as theſe.*

BLeſſed be thy name, O God, for the good hope which thy infinite charity hath given us; by thy great grace in Chriſt Jeſus, and the plentiful communication of the holy Ghoſt. O let thy mercy be upon me according as I hope in thee. Preſerve me alway in thy love, through that abundant grace in thy Son Chriſt, and the powerful preſence of thy holy Spirit working in me mightily, this day and ever.

Or

Or, after The peace of God which paſſeth all underſtanding, *&c. you may ſay as the Apoſtle St.* Paul, (2 Theſſ. 3. 16.) *and the* Pſalmiſt 115. 12, 13, 18.

NOw *the Lord of peace himſelf give me peace always, by all means. The Lord be with us all. The Lord hath been mindful of us, he will bleſs us. He will bleſs them that fear him, both ſmall and great. And we will bleſs the Lord from this time forth, and for evermore.* Amen.

A ſhort Prayer for the Lords-day, or any other, to be uſed at home before Morning Service.

O Lord, the Almighty Creator of the world, and the merciful Saviour of mankind; who art above

above all our thoughts, and excelleſt the praiſes of the higheſt Angels. *Thou art greatly to be feared in the aſſembly of thy Saints, and to be had in reverence of all thoſe, that are about thee.* I moſt humbly deſire leave to joyn my ſelf with all thoſe holy ones, to worſhip thy moſt glorious Majeſty, to expreſs the due ſenſe I have of all thy benefits (by paying thee my moſt thankful acknowledgements for them) to make thee the beſt oblation I am able, and devote my ſelf intirely to thy obedience. Since thou haſt graciouſly inclined me to go into thy houſe, and there to ſet forth thy praiſe, to declare thy loving kindneſs, to reſign my ſelf to thy Will, to recommend my ſelf to thy Wiſdom, to ſubmit to thy Government, to approve the juſtice and goodneſs of all thy Laws, to profeſs that I am thy ſervant, to renounce all thy enemies, and to teſtifie my continued purpoſe to follow thee againſt all the temptations of the

the world, the flesh and the Devil: be pleased, good Lord, to pardon all my former failings, and at this present to accept my holy intentions, and to inspire me from above, that I may chearfully perform all these acts of devotion to thy Divine Majesty.

And vouchsafe more fully to inform me in my duty, to correct and amend what is amiss in me, to incourage and strengthen my good resolutions, and to assist me in all well doing. Fill me with a great love to thee, and to my blessed Saviour; to thy holy Word, and to all holy duties; to Christian people every where, and to all mankind. Perfect me in Wisdom, in Holiness, and in Goodness. By all thy instructions, by all thy mercies, by all thy chastisements, and by all my prayers, praises and thanksgivings to thee, the Father of mercies; make me such as thou canst love, and delight in, and reward at the great day of the Lord Jesus. *Amen.*

A ſhort Prayer at home, after we are come from Church; before Dinner.

I Adore thee again, O Lord of Life and glory; I acknowledge my dependence on thee. I thank thee for thy mercies, which thou never ceaſeſt to heap upon me. Accept, I beſeech thee, of that dedication I have made of ſoul and body, with praiſes and thankſgivings, unto thee in the publick Congregation. Be merciful to all my ſins: and indue me with the grace of thy holy Spirit, to inable me to preſent my ſelf, when I appear again before thee, a more holy and devout Sacrifice unto thee; ſteadfaſtly reſolved, and chearfully diſpoſed, in every thing to be ordered by thy Will. For which end be pleaſed to ſettle and root in my heart a ſtronger belief of thy holy Goſpel, and to fix my thoughts and affections upon that unſeen happineſs and bliſs where our

our Saviour is: That nothing here below may either allure or affright me from my duty, nor ever make me remiſs or negligent in it; but I may be zealous of good works, fervent in ſpirit ſerving my Lord, from whom I expect the reward of an immortal inheritance.

Preſerve in me always a Religious ſenſe of thee. And make me now ſo thankful and ſober a partaker of the refreſhments of my body, that they may not damp the devotion of my ſoul: But I may rather return to worſhip thee with greater chearfulneſs and gladneſs of heart, after thou haſt added the good things of this world, to thoſe of the other; according to thy abundant love in Chriſt Jeſus. *Amen.*

A Prayer in private before the Evening Service.

O God who art *rich in mercy to all that call upon thee*, and haſt bid us *pray without ceaſing, and rejoyce evermore.* In obedience to thy command, and incouraged by the goodneſs of thy Nature, thy gracious invitations, thy moſt precious promiſes, and the long experience that I and others have had of thy bounty, I am bold again to approach into thy preſence; to renew my requeſts unto thee, to bleſs thy holy name, to make profeſſion of my love to thee, and readineſs in all things to obey thee. Quicken my thoughts and affections, O Lord, to a free and joyful attendance on thee in all holy duties: that no dulneſs nor wearineſs may ſeize upon my ſpirit; but ſuch a fervent love to thee may poſſeſs my heart, as may render all the

1 Theſſ. 5.

the imployments of Religion my delight, and the doing thy Will both now and alway my greateſt pleaſure.

And paſs by, I moſt humbly beſeech thee, all my unwilling indiſpoſitions. Accept of ſuch ſervice as I am able to render thee. And diſpoſe me by all my addreſſes to thee, to be more circumſpect and watchful, more diligent and induſtrious, more forward and zealous in the performance of every part of my duty. That being led by thy Counſel, governed by thy Spirit, and preſerved by thy gracious Providence, I may at laſt be admitted into the company of the bleſſed; there to perfect my praiſes and acknowledgements, and to receive the reward of patient continuance in well doing, through Chriſt Jeſus. Whoſe *grace be with my ſpirit.* Amen.

Another after the Evening Service is done, as ſoon as there is opportunity to retire alone.

I Acknowledge thy manifold bleſſings, O Lord, which are renewed upon me every moment. I owe my life continually to thee, with all the comforts of it. If I had no more to thank thee for, but the mercies of this day, they are ſo many, ſo great, that I could never thank thee enough for them. Thou takeſt care of my body, and of my ſoul. Thou feedeſt me at thy houſe, and at my own. Thou letteſt me taſte the bread of Life which came down from Heaven, beſides the many ſupports and refreſhments which thou affordeſt for this natural life. Several of thy creatures loſe their lives to preſerve mine, and thy dear Son hath not thought it too much to lay down his precious Life for my ſake. Thou ſpeakeſt to me, and giveſt me leave to ſpeak to thee.

Thou

Thou inſtructeſt me in my duty, and haſt made thoſe things my duty, which are really my happineſs. Thou ingageſt me to do my ſelf good here, by promiſing a greater good hereafter.

I praiſe thee; I thank thee; and will be ever ſpeaking good of thee. And it is a new favour that I may thus praiſe and bleſs thee, both in the aſſemblies of thy people, and in my own retirements. O give me an heart to delight in it, and in all other duties of a Chriſtian life. That obeying thy holy Goſpel in all things, and being never weary in well doing, I may find thy unwearied goodneſs extending it ſelf to immortal life and bliſs through Chriſt Jeſus.

O bleſſed Jeſus that thy holy Laws may be more deeply ingraven on my heart! O that every truth I have learnt this day, may be ſo faithfully preſerved and kept in mind; as to become the rule of my life, or the ground of my hope, and a powerful mo-

motive to universal and uniform obedience to the end of my days! O that the remainder of my days may be the better for this day: and the holy rest we observe here on earth may be a beginning of the eternal rest which we wait for at thy second coming. *Amen. Come Lord Jesus.*

A Prayer upon any Festival in remembrance of our blessed Lord and Saviour.

O Most glorious God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ; *the Father of lights, from whom cometh every good, and every perfect gift; with whom there is no variableness, nor shadow of change.* Thou always wast, and ever wilt be happy without us, or any of the praises that we or any other creatures are able to render unto thee. But it is our duty, our perfection, and high

Jam. 1. 17.

pri-

riviledge, constantly to acknow-
edge thee, with joy and exultation
f spirit; in remembrance of thy in-
nite bounty to us, and to all world.
very day tells us how good thou art,
nd every one of thy creatures calls
pon us to magnifie thee, and love
hee, and serve thee; who hast made
o many of them to serve us. But
his day gives us occasion to remem-
er thy more special and extraordi-
ary kindness to us the children of
nen; which calls for our highest
nd most exalted praises, to be joyn-
d with those of the blessed company
bove, who are never weary of gi-
ing honour, glory, blessing and
hanksgiving to thee, not only in
heir own behalf, but even for thy
goodness to us thy unworthy crea-
tures.

O how great was that love, which
an Angel came to give notice of!
and which a multitude of an heaven-
ly host celebrated with songs of
praise, when thou sentest thy dear

Son in the likeneſs of ſinful fleſh, and in the form of a ſervant, to miniſter to our neceſſities, to relieve our miſery, and to be the way to everlaſting life! O the riches of thy grace, that after mankind had forfeited all the rights of thy creatures, and had contemned and deſpitefully uſed many of thy meſſengers, thou wouldſt in much mercy create us again unto good works, and for that end appear thy ſelf moſt gloriouſly among us, in the perſon of Jeſus Chriſt! I thank thee, O Lord, that thou haſt aſſumed our Nature unto ſuch a nearneſs to thee, as we are not able to underſtand. I thank thee for the glad tydings which Jeſus hath brought us from heaven, that thou wilt be reconciled unto us, and admit us again into thy favour: and that he hath fulfilled all righteouſneſs; and ſhown us in our likeneſs what thou art, and what thou wouldeſt have us to be. I thank thee for the redemption which he hath wrought for us by his bloud.

And

And I rejoyce in the victory which he hath got over hell and the grave by his Reſurrection from the dead; and in his glorious triumph, when he aſcended up on high, and led captivity captive; and in his royal Power wherewith he was inveſted, when he ſat down on the right hand of the Majeſty on high; and in thoſe gifts which he received for men, even for the rebellious alſo, that the Lord God might dwell among them.

Bleſſed be thy eternal goodneſs, which hath made him a moſt merciful and compaſſionate High-prieſt; and given us ſo great aſſurance, that he is become the author of eternal ſalvation unto all them that obey him.

Bleſſed be thy goodneſs, which hath ſent the holy Ghoſt; and continued to us a ſucceſſion of Paſtors and Teachers, to be the Guides of our Souls, and to miniſter to us thoſe pledges of thy love, which our Saviour hath left us, in

the Communion of his Body and Bloud.

O God, that my heart could aſcend up to heaven in theſe devout meditations, and in ardent love to thee, who haſt loved us in ſuch a marvellous manner! O that it might never come down again to this world, but with deſires left in it aſpiring towards heaven! Touch my ſoul ſo powerfully with a ſenſe of theſe things, that with an hearty and zealous affection it may ever look towards thee, and towards my dear Lord and Saviour Chriſt Jeſus. O fix mine eyes on him, as he was here on earth, that I may learn of him, his humble and meek obedience to thy commands: and as he is now in heaven, that I may truſt him for the performance of his precious promiſes, and patiently wait till he carry me to that glorious place where he is inthroned. Since he appeared among us to deſtroy the works of the Devil, and died to redeem us from all

ſin,

ſin, and roſe again that he might bleſs us in turning every one of us from our iniquities, and is made Lord of all that he may govern us by his Laws, and reward and puniſh us according to our works; preſerve in my mind, I beſeech thee, a conſtant and lively ſenſe of this great end of his whole undertaking for us: That he may ſee the fruit of the travail of his ſoul in me, and my whole life may be a ſerious ſtudy and endeavour to imitate him, by purifying my ſelf, as he is pure.

O that thy fear and love, and an holy joy in thee, may preſerve me this day, from abuſing any of the good things which thou alloweſt me for the refreſhment of my body. Give me ſuch a ſavour and reliſh of thy Divine Truths revealed to us in the Goſpel, that I way not glut my ſelf with any fleſhly injoyments, as if I knew no pleaſure more excellent. But raiſe up my mind by them to better delights: that I may injoy them

with thanksgiving to thee, with bowels of mercy to those who are in need, with a taste of spiritual and heavenly joys, and with hunger and thirst after the fulness and perfection of those joys, when our Lord Jesus shall come to shew us his glory, and entertain us with eternal satisfaction in his incomprehensible love. *Amen.*

A PRAYER ON GOOD FRIDAY In the MORNING.

O Moſt holy and eternally bleſſed; the God and Father of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, by whom I am incouraged to come unto thee. And how ſhall I come, O Lord, but in the loweſt proſtrations of my ſoul and body; with mine eyes full of tears, and my heart full of grief and ſorrow, becauſe I have been ſo undutiful to thee, whoſe grace and mercy hath ſo exceedingly abounded towards us! When I caſt mine eyes upon my Saviour, and upon my ſelf, with the reſt of the children of men,

I am aſtoniſhed at the wonderful greatneſs of thy love, which ſurpaſſes the thoughts of men and Angels.

For what were we that thou ſhouldeſt make thy dear Son a man of ſorrows, and acquainted with grief, for our ſake? That he ſhould become poor and mean, not having where to lay his head; and indure likewiſe cruel mockings and buffettings; and be ſpit upon and abuſed; yea, ſorely wounded and bruiſed; and drink that bitter cup, the vile and accurſed death of the croſs; where he ſhed his moſt precious bloud, and gave himſelf a ranſome for us? O Lord, what was the whole race of mankind worth, that thou ſhouldeſt purchaſe them with ſo dear a price? and by the obedience of thy Son Chriſt Jeſus unto the death, grant a pardon for their rebellion? and ſeal a new Covenant of Grace in his bloud? and by the ſame bloud conſecrate him to be an high-Prieſt with

with royal Power in the heavens, to give repentance and remiſſion of ſin? and all this, ſo freely, that we did not ſo much as deſire it, nor did it enter into the heart of men to conceive, that thou ſhouldeſt be ſo gracious to them? O bleſſed God, how rich is thy goodneſs, that lets us withal injoy a great plenty of worldly good things, much of that eaſe and pleaſure which was denyed our dear Saviour? and yet we are ſinners, and he had no ſin, neither was guile found in his mouth: yea, we are ungrateful ſinners, ſo far from being ſenſible as we ought of ſuch infinite loving kindneſs; that we may juſtly fear leſt this goodneſs of thine which was deſigned to ſave us, ſhould through our unthankfulneſs and negligence, prove the occaſion of our greater ruine.

I moſt heartily bewail, O moſt merciful Father, my ſhameful forgetfulneſs of ſo great benefits, or my cold and dull remembrance of them.

I lament all the errors and miſcarriages of my life, which are the more heynous, I acknowledge, after ſuch a plain declaration of thy diſpleaſure againſt ſin, and of thy marvellous love to us ſinners. I am afflicted for the hardneſs and ſtupidity of my heart, which, alas! is oft-times little pierced and wounded, when I reflect upon his ſorrow and pain, and anguiſh for the ſake of ſinners: and for the liſtleſſneſs and backwardneſs of my will to give up my ſelf abſolutely to him, who ſo willingly gave himſelf an offering for our ſins. I bluſh to remember how weak and ſhort my thoughts have been; how tranſient and ineffectual my paſſions, when I have meditated on his bloudy death and ſufferings: And am confounded when I think how ſuddenly I have ſtarted from thoſe holy purpoſes and reſolutions, which the ſenſe of his love hath ſometimes begot in my heart.

I cannot but accuſe and condemn my

my ſelf here in thy preſence; but I likewiſe condemn every ſinful deſire that is ſtill remaining in me, to dye and be crucified together with him. I would have nothing contrary to thy Will, to have any power, or live any longer in me: and therefore here yield up my ſelf intirely into thy hands, to be conformed in all things to Chriſt Jeſus who dyed for me. Fix my thoughts ſo conſtantly upon his dying love, and affect my heart ſo mightily therewith, that I may chearfully undergo any pains to be made like unto him in his humility; in his obedience; in his reſignation of himſelf to thy wiſe will and pleaſure; in his patience; in his meekneſs, in his charity, and forgiveneſs of his enemies; in his willingneſs to quit all things for thy names ſake, and to truſt both ſoul and body with thee, in well doing and contented ſuffering, whatſoever it be that thou requireſt of me.

I deſire not to live, O Lord, but

that I may live to him that dyed for me. I refuſe no reproaches, no poverty, no pain or trouble, if thy will cannot other ways be accompliſhed by me. Do what thou pleaſeſt with me, ſo that I may but be perfected in holineſs, and obtain thy gracious pardon through the redemption that is in Jeſus.

I believe the vertue and power of his Sacrifice to be everlaſting; and that *when he had by himſelf purged our ſins, he ſat down on the right hand of the Majeſty on high:* And therefore I look for the conſtant aſſiſtance of thy good Spirit, which he hath bid me ask in his Name, to inable me to purifie my ſelf, and to tread in the ſteps of his humble, meek and patient Charity; that ſo I may be preſented unblameable and unproveable in thy ſight at the day of his appearing. Great is the wiſdom of thy love wherein thy grace hath abounded towards us in Chriſt Jeſus! Great are the incouragements which thou haſt

haſt given us, by his laying down his life for us, that he might take it again and live for evermore! Great is the boldneſs that we have *to enter into the holyeſt by the blood of Jeſus; by a new and living way, which he hath conſecrated for us through his fleſh!* Give me the grace, I beſeech thee, wiſely to conſider and ponder the merciful deſign of thy Grace; to walk circumſpectly and exactly, as the redeemed of the Lord, as an heir of his love, that hopes to ſee him in immortal glory. O that the comfort and joy of this hope, to ſee Jeſus who was ſo ſcorned and abuſed, ſitting upon his throne, and triumphing over all his enemies, may ſo raiſe and inlarge my mind by the power of it, that I may overlook and deſpiſe all the petty temptations of this world: looking ſtill ſteadfaſtly unto him, and following him with unmoveable reſolution; till I come to poſſeſs that which I hope for, and rejoyce eternally in his love.

Hear

Hear me, O Father of mercies, and deal graciouſly with me far beyond all my thoughts and deſires, for his ſake; who is the Author and the finiſher of our faith, who dyed once for us, and now lives for ever to make interceſſion on our behalf: By whom all honour, praiſe, thankſgiving, love and obedience be rendered to thee by me and by all mankind both now and for ever. *Amen.*

A Prayer on Good Friday *in the* Evening.

O Moſt holy, moſt gracious, the only wiſe God, moſt bleſſed for ever. We cannot conceive the greatneſs of thy perfections, nor is there any thing to which we can compare them. Thy holineſs is more unſpotted than the light of the Sun: Thy goodneſs ſpreads it ſelf more largely than

than its beams: Thy Wiſdom pierces into thoſe ſecrets which are buried in darkneſs: and though all things alter and wax old, yet thou art the ſame unchangeable being, whoſe years have no end. How ſhall ſuch a vile wretch as I am take the boldneſs to look towards thee, and ſpeak unto thee, who art ſo great, ſo glorious, and dwelleſt in light not to be approached?

Adored be thy wonderful love, who haſt incouraged our approaches to thee, by humbling thy ſelf to look down upon us, and by appearing graciouſly to us in our own fleſh. Bleſſing, Honour, Glory and Praiſe be eternally aſcribed unto thee, who didſt not abhor us, and utterly caſt us out of thy ſight, when we had turned our backs upon thee; but ſent thy only begotten Son into the world, to call us again unto thee, yea, to beſeech us, and oblige us, by laying down his own life for us, to return unto thee and live.

No

No thought can comprehend the unſearchable riches of thy Grace manifeſted unto us in the Lord Jeſus, who was pleaſed to be vilely intreated, and ſhamefully uſed, to ſuffer the reproach of the Croſs, and to ſhed his deareſt bloud; that we might not ſuffer the pain of eternal death, but be reſtored to the dignity of thy children, and advanced to honour, glory and immortality together with him. Thou haſt found out a way to manifeſt thy moſt tender love to us, without the leaſt ſuſpicion of approving and loving our ſins; and to preſerve thy Soveraign Authority, without deſtroying thoſe who were in rebellion againſt it. Thou haſt ordered ſuch a chaſtiſement of our iniquities, as might ſave and deliver us, who deſerved to be puniſhed: and ſo diſpoſed the means of our redemption, as to pardon and amend us, both at once.

O the wiſdom of thy Love, which hath *made him to be ſin for us, who knew*

knew no ſin, that we might be made the righteouſneſs of thee our God in him! 2 Cor. 5. 21. O the riches of thy Grace, which hath abounded to us in all wiſdom and prudence! *Healing us by his ſtripes;* 1 Pet. 2. 24. *and condemning ſin in the fleſh by his ſacrifice for ſin;* Rom. 8. 3. *and making him a curſe for us, that we might inherit a bleſſing, and receive the promiſe of the Spirit, through faith in him.* Gal. 3. 14. I ſee, O Lord, how infinitely I am indebted to thee. I behold the deſign of thy wiſe goodneſs in *giving him for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purifie us to himſelf a peculiar people zealous of good works.* Tit. 2. 14. I thank thee with all my ſoul, for *his bearing our ſins in his own body on the tree, that we being dead unto ſin, ſhould live unto righteouſneſs.* 1 Pet. 2. There is nothing I can more deſire than by *doing righteouſneſs, to be-* 1 Joh. 3.

come

come righteous even as he is righteous. Aſſiſt me, I beſeech thee, to attain this end of his death and paſſion, by the power of that holy Spirit which he hath thereby purchaſed for us, and hath likewiſe promiſed to us, and is able to bleſs us withal.

I dread to think that his precious bloud ſhould be loſt and ſpilt in vain for me; that ſo great a price ſhould be caſt away, wherewith thou haſt bought me, to glorifie thee with my body and ſpirit which are thine. O God preſerve in me ſuch a lively ſenſe of his grief and ſorrow, of his pain and anguiſh; that I may bitterly hate the cauſe of all his torments, and look on every ſin, as the moſt fearful curſe that can befal me. Preſerve in me a conſtant ſenſe of the great value of my ſoul, for which he paid ſo dearly: and a great eſteem of that purity, righteouſneſs and goodneſs, for the reſtoring of which he made himſelf of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a ſervant,

and

and was obedient to death, even the death of the Croſs. And eſpecially raiſe me to a great height of love and gratitude to thee, and of hope and confidence in thy infinite mercies; of which we have ſuch ſtrong aſſurance, by his being *delivered for our offences, and raiſed again for our juſtification.* Make me more and more in love with that lowlineſs of mind, that tender and compaſſionate charity, that meekneſs, patience and forgiveneſs which ſhone in his ſufferings. And ſubdue my will ſo perfectly, unto ſuch an abſolute, quiet and ready ſubmiſſion to thy holy Will in every thing; that my hope in thee may increaſe exceedingly: *and not only ſo, but I may alſo joy in thee my God, through our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, by whom we have now received the atonement.* Rom. 4. 25. Rom. 5. 11.

Hear, Good Lord, the prayers of the whole Church, *which thou haſt purchaſed with thine own bloud.* O

that

that every member thereof may ſerve thee purely and orderly in the rank and condition wherein thou haſt placed them, to their mutual benefit and comfort, and to the conviction of thoſe who are enemies or ſtrangers to the Name of the Lord Jeſus; that they ſeeing our good works may glorifie thee our heavenly Father, and acknowledge that thou art among us of a Truth. Bleſs all the Miniſters of Religion or Juſtice: and endue them with a great love to the honour of our Saviour, and with a great zeal to make his holy Laws underſtood and obſerved. That as he *gave himſelf for his Church, that he might ſanctifie and cleanſe it with the waſhing of water by the word, and preſent it to himſelf a glorious Church, not having ſpot, or wrinkle, or any ſuch thing:* So *all that name the name of Chriſt may depart from all iniquity,* and indeavour to be *holy and without blemiſh,* and be found

Epheſ. 5. 26, 27.

found of him in peace at the day of his appearing.

Now unto him that loved us, and waſhed us from our ſins in his own blood, and hath made us kings and prieſts unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen. *Rev.* 1.5,6.

A PRAYER
ON ANY
SAINTS DAY.

THOU art to be praiſed, O Lord of heaven and earth, in all thy works of wonder, which declare the aſtoniſhing greatneſs of thy Majeſty, Power, Wiſdom and Goodneſs, throughout the world. One generation praiſes thy works to another, and declares thy mighty acts; eſpecially the manifold wiſdom of thy incomprehenſible love in the ſalvation of mankind by Chriſt Jeſus; who hath brought us the glad tidings of peace and reconciliation with thee, and the promiſe of immortal life and glory, if we will be obedient to thee. An innumerable company of holy Souls have in all ages ſince moſt thankfully received and

and acknowledged this thy grace and tender mercy; being obedient to the very death, and leaving us an excellent example of pure love to thee, and conſtant affection, and hearty devotion, and ardent zeal for the honour of our Lord and Maſter Chriſt Jeſus. I add my poor tribute of praiſe and thankſgiving to all that hath been rendred unto thee, O God, who in the beginning *commandedſt the light toſhine out of darkneſs, and haſt now ſhone into* the hearts of thy holy ones, to give the light of thy divine knowledge in the face of Jeſus Chriſt.

Thanks be to thy infinite goodneſs, as for that glorious manifeſtation of thy ſelf in our fleſh, and the eternal redemption that the Lord Jeſus obtained for us by his bloud, and the power and dominion which thou haſt given him at thy right hand after his Reſurrection from the dead, and his compaſſionate interceſſion on our behalf: So for all thoſe gifts which

which he gave unto men; whereby *he made ſome Apoſtles, ſome Prophets, ſome Evangeliſts, ſome Paſtors and teachers, for the perfecting of the Saints, for the work of the miniſtry, and the edifying of his body.* Bleſſing, honour, glory and praiſe be to thee, O Father of mercies, for all thoſe great inſtruments of the holy Ghoſt, the illuſtrious Miniſters of thy grace, the Embaſſadors for Chriſt, and the bleſſed Champions of his holy Truth, who have communicated the light of thy glorious Goſpel to the world, and overcome the kingdom of darkneſs, *by the bloud of the Lamb, and the word of their teſtimony, not loving their lives unto the death.* Rev. 12. 11.

Adored be the mightineſs of that Grace, which *out of the mouths of babes and ſucklings ordained ſtrength.* Pſal. 8. 2. Glory be to thee, O Chriſt, whoſe ſtrength was made perfect in weakneſs. 2 Cor. 2. 9. Glory be unto

thee, who didſt commit this heaven-
ly *treaſure unto earthen*
2 Cor. 4. 7. *veſſels*; who *approved*
6. 4, 5. *themſelves the miniſters of*
God in much patience, in
afflictions, in neceſſities, in diſtreſſes,
in ſtripes, in impriſonments, in toſſings
to and fro, in labours, in watchings,
in faſtings, that the excellency of the
power might be of God and not of
men. I heartily ſubmit to the power
of that Divine Truth, for which
Phil. 3. 8. *they ſuffered the loſs of all*
things, and counted them
but dung that they might win Chriſt,
and be found in him. And I rejoyce
that thou haſt had ſo many faithful
ſervants who have loved thee, O
Lord thou lover of ſouls, more than
their own lives; moſt earneſtly deſi-
ring to be inſpired with the very ſame
ſpirit which was in them, that I may
leave ſome example, though never ſo
ſmall, of hearty and univerſal obe-
dience, to thoſe that ſhall come
after.

Accep

Accept, good Lord, of my ſincere reſolution to be a *follower of them, even as they were of Chriſt, in pureneſs, in knowledge, in long-ſuffering, in kindneſs, in love unfeigned: That my rejoycing may be this, the teſtimony of my conſcience, that in ſimplicity and godly ſincerity, not with fleſhly wiſdom, but by thy grace, I have had my converſation in the world; providing for honeſt things, not only in the ſight of our Lord, but alſo in the ſight of all men.* Make me conſtant and couragious in the profeſſion of thy holy Truth; and to be willing *to paſs through honour or diſhonour, through good report, or evil report*; for the Lords ſake, hoping that *if the ſufferings of Chriſt abound in me, my conſolation alſo ſhall abound by Chriſt.* Stir me up, I beſeech thee, and quicken me that I may *ſhow the ſame diligence* that thy Saints have done,

1 Cor. 11. 1.

2 Cor. 6. 6, 7.

2 Cor. 1. 12.

8. 21.

1. 5.

to the full assurance of hope unto the end; that I may not be
Heb. 6. 11, 12. *slothful, but a follower of them who through faith*
2. 3, 4, 5. *and patience inherited the promises. How shall I escape if I neglect so great salvation, which at first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed by them that heard him, God also bearing them witness with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles of the holy Ghost, according to his own will?* O continue the mighty assistance of that divine power with me, that behaving myself *so holily, justly and*
1 Thess. 2. 10. *unblameably* as they did, I may *rest* at last together
2. 1, 7, 9. *with them, when our Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty Angels, to be glorified in his Saints, and admired in all them that believe.*

And now preserve me this day from dishonouring *that*
Jam. 2. 7. *worthy name, whereby we*
are

are called; knowing how we ought to follow them, who behaved not themſelves diſorderly among thoſe that believed. 2 Theſſ. 3. 7, 13.

That by this reſt from my ordinary labours, I may not learn idleneſs, nor *grow weary of well doing*; but be better diſpoſed in my mind by all the refreſhments of my body, to do my duty in the place and relations wherein thou haſt ſet me, with greater chearfulneſs, fidelity and diligence to the end of my days. O that it may be my higheſt pleaſure to attend on thee and praiſe thee in the aſſemblies of thy Saints. Give me ſuch a ſenſible delight and joy in reading and meditating of thy holy Word, and in the remembrance of all thy mercies, that nothing in this world may make me forget the ſweetneſs of it: but every thing may excite me more to praiſe, extol and magnifie thy loving-kindneſs to me; and to

expreſs my thankfulneſs in a free and ready obedience to thy commands; till I be made fit to be admitted into the company of the bleſſed, there to praiſe thee world without end. *Amen.*

A PRAYER

Upon the day of ones

BIRTH.

O Moſt mighty Lord, the Former and Preſerver of all things: All thy works praiſe thee, and do declare thy infinite greatneſs, wiſdom and bounty; and do call upon us likewiſe to magnifie thy Name with our continual praiſes and thankſgivings. I humbly bow my ſelf before thy glorious Majeſty who inhabiteſt eternity; acknowledging that it is but a little time ſince I was not;

not; and that I am not gone down again into ſilence is to be aſcribed only to thy Omnipotent goodneſs, which brought me into being, to praiſe thee among the reſt of thy creatures.

I thank thee, O Lord, by *whom I was fearfully and wonderfully made, and curiouſly wrought in my mothers womb. Thou art he that took me thence; thou didſt make me hope when I was upon my mothers breaſt. By thee I have been holden up ever ſince*; and moſt carefully provided for, when I could not think at all of thy tender mercies towards me. And therefore now that I am grown to the uſe of my reaſon, *my praiſe ought to be continually of thee. O bleſs the Lord, my ſoul, and all that is within me bleſs his holy Name. Bleſs the Lord, O my ſoul, and forget not all his bene-* Pſal. 139. 14, 15. 22. 9. 71. 6. 103. 1, 2.

ſits. While I live will I
Pſal. 146.2. *praiſe the Lord; I will ſing praiſes to my God while I have any being.* Pardon, I beſeech thee, my ingratitude, in that I have no earlier remembred thee my Creator, *in whom I live and move, and who giveſt me all things richly to enjoy.* Accept of my unfeigned reſolutions to preſerve hereafter a more grateful ſenſe of thy great goodneſs to me, and to glorifie thee with my body and with my ſpirit, which are thine. Vouchſafe me the aſſiſtance of thy heavenly grace, that I may return them back unto thee pure and undefiled; full of wiſdom and ſpiritual underſtanding; full of love and devout affection to thee; full of all good works and the fruits of righteouſneſs, to *which thou*
Epheſ. 2.10. *haſt created me again by Chriſt Jeſus, that I ſhould walk in them.*

Bleſſed be thy Name, who haſt ſent him to give me a new and better

ter life. I thank thee for all the helps and comforts of his Religion. O that my heart may be poſſeſſed with ſuch a ſtrong belief of it, and ſuch a ſincere love to it, that I may feel indeed that I am born again and made a new creature: meditating daily of thy mercies; breathing forth my ſoul to thee, in prayers, and praiſes, and thankſgivings; walking in the Spirit of *goodneſs, righteouſneſs and truth; and proving what is acceptable to our Lord.* Epheſ. 5, 9.

All the thanks and ſervices, I acknowledge, that I am able to render to thee, are nothing worth: but the longer I live, I moſt earneſtly deſire the more hearty, and the purer they may be; and the more I may be inabled to do for thy honour and glory. If thou ſuffereſt me to continue in this life another year, O that in the concluſion of it, I may preſent my ſelf unto thee again more improved in all that is praiſe worthy. The

time paſt is too much to have miſſpent; O that I may ſuffer no more of my precious hours to run waſte, but that they may all be taken up, and carefully laid out in well doing. Help me diligently to husband ſo great a treaſure, which thou intruſteſt me withal, and to imploy it in order to a bleſſed Eternity. Let not *the cares of this world, and the deceitfulneſs of riches, and the luſts of other things entring in, choke thoſe good ſeeds* which thou haſt ſown in my heart, ſo that *they become unfruitful:* but inable me as I grow in years to increaſe alſo in *love, joy, peace, long-ſuffering, gentleneſs, goodneſs, faith, meekneſs, temperance,* and all other fruits of thy holy Spirit.

Mark 4.19.

Gal.5.22.

And ſince I have been thy care ſo long, *I will* ſtill *hope* in thee *continually,* that I ſhall *yet praiſe thee more and more. Caſt me not off* if I live to the

Pſal.71.14. 9.17.

time

time of old age, forſake me not when my ſtrength faileth. O God, thou haſt taught me from my youth, and hitherto I have declared thy wondrous works. Hold me up ſtill, *and I ſhall be ſafe. Order my ſteps in thy word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me.* That ſo *if the evil days come, and the years draw nigh, when I ſhall ſay, I have no pleaſure in them;* I may rejoyce in the remembrance of a well-ſpent life, and, having a good hope in thee, *the day of my death, may be better than the day of my birth.* O that death may never ſurprize me, nor find me unprepared. Help me to walk alway ſo circumſpectly, and to be ſo mindful of my latter end, that when death comes it may be no ſtranger to me; but I may entertain it as an acquaintance, and a friend: and with the ſame chearfulneſs put off my body, and lay it down in the

Pſal. 119. 117, 133.

Eccleſ. 12. 1.

7. 1.

grave,

grave, that I put off my clothes and lay my ſelf down in my bed. I commit my ſelf intirely to thee, both now and ever; waiting for thy mercy in Chriſt Jeſus, at that great Day, when thou ſhalt awake us out of the duſt. O that I may then be numbered among the Juſt, and ſtand at the right hand of my Saviour, and hear that joyful voice,

Matth. 25. 34. *Come ye bleſſed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.* Amen.

THat we may be ſtedfaſt, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, here follow particular Prayers for that grace; and, in caſe of any failing in our duty, for repentance, and pardon, and an heart ſenſible of the divine goodneſs, and more conſiderate and careful for the time to come.

A

A PRAYER FOR RESOLUTION IN WELL DOING.

O Moſt bleſſed God, the fountain of wiſdom, power, ſtrength, and all other perfections: from whoſe bounty I have formerly received, and at preſent enjoy innumerable bleſſings; and have no hope for the future, but what ariſes from the ſame everlaſting ſpring of all good, which is never weary of deriving its benefits unto us. I ought in a ſenſe of my intire dependance upon thee, to be very humble; very thankful; exceeding ſolicitous for thy favour, and deſirous of thy good will; ſorrowful

rowful for my neglects of thee; aſhamed of the pitiful returns I have made to thee; and moſt peremptorily reſolved, and zealouſly bent to approve my ſelf hereafter to thy Divine Majeſty, in all well doing.

Accordingly I am now proſtrate before thee, to implore the continued powerful preſence of that infinite grace, to which I owe theſe holy thoughts that are in my mind, and by which alone I can hope to perform and accompliſh them. Poſſeſs me, O God, with ſuch a full and lively ſenſe of thy undeſerved and unwearied love and kindneſs to me, in paſſing by ſo much ingratitude, and ſo many tranſgreſſions; in laying on me ſuch ſtrong and manifold obligations to be happy by obeying thee, and in affording me ſuch powerful aſſiſtances to attain that happineſs; that I may love thee proportionably with a more conſtant and ſteadfaſt affection, and feel an unalterable

alterable will ſettled in me, to do the duty thou requireſt of me; into whatſoever ſtate and condition of life, thou ſhalt be pleaſed to diſpoſe me.

When we have loved thee all that we can, I am ſenſible we have loved thee but a little; becauſe we, and all that we can do are ſo inconſiderable. How ſmall a thing then is it, how poor and contemptible, that we return unto thee; when we love thee not ſo much as we are able! O bleſſed God, cauſe ſuch a delightful ſenſe of thy goodneſs to fall upon my heart, and to abide with me, that all the powers of my ſoul may ſtrain themſelves to love thee, and unite themſelves unto thee, in an unalterable choice of thy Will, to be the ſole governour of all my deſigns, and deſires, and actions throughout the whole courſe of my life. I love my ſelf moſt, I ſee, when I love thee intirely: and ſerve my ſelf, by doing thee all faithful ſervice. In union with thee I

am

am at reſt and peace; and in conſtant adherence to thee conſiſts my eternal ſafety and ſecurity. To thee therefore, with the deliberate and full conſent of my will, I devote my ſelf; reſolving to love and ſerve thee, with all my heart, and with all my ſoul, and with all my ſtrength. I vow unto thee, as I have done often, all ſincere obedience; and proteſt againſt every thing that is contrary to thy holy commands, as contrary alſo to my own ſenſe and judgement, to my moſt ſober and ſerious thoughts, and to my moſt adviſed counſels and reſolutions. They all acknowledge how juſt and reaſonable, how good and pleaſant, how profitable and beneficial, how honourable and glorious it is to be a doer of thy Will, which, beſides the preſent contentment and ſatisfaction of it, hath a great recompence of reward. O preſerve in my mind a conſtant remembrance, how dearly I am bought by the precious bloud of

of thy Son Chriſt; how early I was dedicated to thy ſervice; how often I have ſince found abundant cauſe to determine I would be thine; how I have condemned my ſelf for the breach of thoſe holy purpoſes, and what great ſatisfaction of mind I have had in the keeping of thy Commandments: That ſo I may never wilfully offend againſt ſo many forcible reaſons obliging me to my duty; but be ſwayed by them, notwithſtanding all the temptations of the world, the fleſh or the devil, to perſevere in a reſolved obedience to thee for ever. And by the power of thy holy Spirit, I beſeech thee to make them clearer, ſtronger and more effectual; that I may have the ſame thoughts, paſſions, inclinations and purpoſes now, which I ſhall be apt to have when I come to dye. For which end, help me often to place my ſelf before thy Judgement Seat, and to conſider that I muſt give an account for all that I have received;

received; for thy holy Goſpel; for thy divine inſpirations, for the counſels and exhortations of thy Miniſters, for all the means and helps of growing better, and for all the incouragements I have even from the good things of this life, which thy bounty beſtows upon me. That by a careful preparation for ſuch a reckoning, I may be kept cloſe and ſtedfaſt to my duty; in hope of that exceeding glorious reward, which our Lord will beſtow upon all his faithful ſervants, at the day of his appearing. *Amen.*

Another to the ſame effect.

O Moſt great and glorious Majeſty of heaven and earth: who art of unſpotted purity, and in whom there is not the leaſt ſhadow of change.

change. I know that all the reſolutions of thy Wiſdom are moſt juſt and equal; and I cannot chuſe, when I am in my right mind, to be guided by any thing elſe, but thy holy Will: who deſigneſt, I ſee, in all the revelations thou haſt made of thy ſelf to us, to make us like to thy own, moſt bleſſed, Nature. I do here own and acknowledge moſt heartily the righteouſneſs and goodneſs of all thy Laws; I admire the lovelineſs of thy Image, in wiſdom, righteouſneſs and true holineſs; I loath my own deformity whilſt I am unlike to thee; I implore thy renewing grace as the greateſt bleſſing I can receive from thee; and I bind my ſelf to the faithful improvement of it, as the weightieſt imployment of my life.

I am abundantly ſatisfied in the declaration thou haſt made of thy gracious purpoſes towards us. I renounce all thoughts and deſires that are contrary thereunto; and reſolve

that

that holineſs and eternal life ſhall be my deſign and ſtudy. I expect no pardon, O my God, but in ways of ſobriety, righteouſneſs and godlineſs. I hope for a bleſſed immortality, only by patient continuance in well doing. I conſent to every part of thy holy Goſpel: and add my teſtimony to the truth of its words, that *none of thy commandments are grievous; but thy yoke is eaſie, and thy burden light.* I hope, O Lord, by thy grace I ſhall never contradict my ſelf, by diſowning in my practice, theſe free and ſerious profeſſions: But that I ſhall every day ſo call to mind my own proteſtations and reſolutions, as to continue with an unwearied diligence in ſtedfaſt obedience to thy commands, and to grow ſtill ſtronger in the grace of the Lord Jeſus.

O that every ſuch addreſs as this unto thy Divine Majeſty, may leave a greater ſenſe of thee, and of

of my duty, and of my happineſs, and of my manifold obligations, and repeated promiſes, upon my heart. That I may always go out of thy preſence with my mind more towards heaven; with lower thoughts of all the injoyments of this life; with a greater reliſh of piety and holineſs; and more paſſionate deſires to become every way ſuch as thou canſt approve, and love and delight in for ever. And aſſiſt me, I humbly beſeech thee, ſo conſtantly from above, that whatſoever good thoughts are at any time in my mind, they may grow to fixed principles: and all heavenly affections may become a new nature, and the conſtant temper of my ſpirit: and all my purpoſes and reſolutions may advance into a ſerious practice and exerciſe of godlineſs: and all the actions of an holy life may grow more free, chearful, vigorous, and full of delight,

light, till they be compleated in everlaſting bliſs, through Chriſt Jeſus. *Amen.*

A PRAYER

After

RELAPSE

Into any

SIN.

I Caſt down my ſelf before thee, O moſt holy Lord of heaven and earth, with an humble ſorrowful and penitent heart, adoring thy infinite grace which ſuffers ſuch a vile and miſerable ſinner to approach into thy preſence. I am thine indeed, dedicated long ago to thy ſervice, which I have ſince choſen, as the moſt perfect freedom: But ſo much the greater reaſon I have to be abaſhed before thee, and to be aſtoniſhed

niſhed at thy forbearing mercy; which prolongs the life of ſuch an one as I am, who have been ſo falſe to thee, and to my own reſolutions. I remember, in the bitterneſs of my ſoul, how many obligations thou haſt laid upon me to obſerve and obey thee; how often I have acknowledged the juſtice and goodneſs of thy Precepts; and how frequently I have promiſed and vowed to conform my ſelf unto them; and what great and precious promiſes thou haſt made to me of invaluable bleſſings: And yet, wretch that I am, I have been drawn aſide from thy ways by eaſie and ſlight temptations; and for a ſmall and momentary pleaſure or gain, * have ventured the loſs of thy favour, which is better than life it ſelf.

* *Here mention the particular ſin.*

O God, that thou ſhouldſt have patience with ſo perfidious, ſo ungrateful, ſo ſenſeleſs a creature as I am! That thou ſhouldſt permit me to

to ſee the light of the Sun, and haſt not condemned me to utter darkneſs, in weeping, wailing and gnaſhing of teeth! But that thou giveſt me leave to look towards heaven, and that I have any heart to ſpeak unto thee, and ſtill may call thee, Father, ſaying, *Father, I have ſinned againſt thee, and am no more worthy to be called thy ſon*; O the riches! O the unſearchable riches of thy grace! I can never ſufficiently admire thy exceeding great long-ſuffering towards me in Chriſt Jeſus. Nor ſufficiently abhorr and loath my ſelf for my foul revolt from thee, who art ſo kind & gracious: eſpecially if I ſhould ſtill continue to abuſe ſuch tender mercy and compaſſion towards me. Tribulation and anguiſh, indignation and wrath, I acknowledge is the due portion of thoſe that do evil: and if thou ſhouldſt abandon me, and caſt me out of thy ſight, I muſt confeſs that thou art righteous, and that I reap but the fruit of my own ways,

ways, and ſuffer the deſerved puniſhment of my late iniquity.

But thou, O God, delighteſt in mercy, and *there is forgiveneſs with thee, that thou mayſt be feared.* Thou haſt ſworn that thou deſireſt not the death of a ſinner; but rather that he ſhould return and live: And haſt ſent thy Son Jeſus, with the moſt indearing arguments of the greateſt love, to perſwade us to return unto our duty. Behold, O Lord, I return; with grief and affliction of ſpirit that I have offended thee: deteſting the thoughts of doing the like again, and reſolving to be more careful, and diligent, and circumſpect for the time to come. O let me live to the praiſe of thy omnipotent Grace, inabling me to perform theſe reſolutions in a more strict and exact obedience to thy holy commands, the reſt of my days. Mercy, mercy, I moſt earneſtly beg, O Father of mercies, for the ſake

Pſal. 130. 4.

Ezek. 18. 32.

of him that dyed for me; not meerly for the pardon of my ſins, but for a Divine Power to enable me to ſubdue them. I deſire not thy infinite goodneſs to bear me out in rebellion againſt thy righteouſneſs, purity and truth; but that by thy goodneſs I may be partaker of them; that my repentance may be accepted, and that it may be hearty and ſtedfaſt, never to be repented of. I deſire no peace, quiet and eaſe in my heart, but in a conſtant and reſolute oppoſition of all the temptations of the world, the fleſh and the devil; and in the hope I have, that through thy gracious aſſiſtance I ſhall be victorious.

O ſettle me, I beſeech thee, in that holy diſpoſition, that I may preſerve an intire friendſhip with thee hereafter, by an happy agreement with thy will and pleaſure in every thing.

Ephes. 6. 10. And for that end make me *ſtrong in the Lord, and in the power of his might*: That by

ing ſenſible of my own great weakneſs, I may more earneſtly depend upon thy aid from above, by an humble and vigorous faith in thy Almighty goodneſs. Maintain ſuch a clear light in my mind, that may keep me from being deceived with the vain ſhadows and empty appearances of ſatisfactory pleaſure in any thing of this world. Fortifie my will with the power of thy Divine love, that may overcome all ſenſual affections that ariſe in me at any time againſt thy ſacred commands. And poſſeſs me with ſuch a lively hope of thoſe good things which Chriſt hath promiſed in the other life, that may make me active and zealous, ſtedfaſt and unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that my labour ſhall not be in vain in the Lord.

Thou knoweſt the ſecrets of all hearts; let thy mercy, O Lord, be upon me, according as I deliberate-

ly and ſincerely chuſe
Act. 11. 23. to *cleave unto thee with*
Pſal. 51. 9, 10, 11. *purpoſe of heart. O caſt me not away from thy preſence; and take not thy holy Spirit from me. But hide thy*
Pſal. 119. 80. *face from my ſins; and*
Pſal. 19. 13, 14. *blot out all mine iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a conſtant ſpirit in me. Make my heart to be ſound in thy Statutes, that I may never be aſhamed. Keep back thy ſervant alſo from preſumptuous ſins, let them not have dominion over me. Then ſhall I be upright, and I ſhall be innocent from the great tranſgreſſion: The words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart ſhall be accepted in thy ſight, O Lord my ſtrength, and my Redeemer.* Amen, Amen.

A THANKSGIVING

To the

DIVINE GOODNESS

For any hope of a

PARDON

After ſuch

RELAPSE.

O Eternally moſt bleſſed God, the Fountain of all good; from whence all creatures derive whatſoever they injoy. They are all poor and indigent things, full of neceſſities and wants, which are continually ſupplied out of thy fulneſs. But the wants of our ſouls are the moſt lamentable: becauſe, beſides the poverty of creatures, we have made a great many needs to our ſelves by our

wilful departure from thee, in whom we live, and move, and have our being. We ſtand in need of thy Pardon, of thy converting grace, and the greater ſupplies of thy holy Spirit: which we know not how with any confidence to expect, but that all theſe wants are not too big for thy infinite goodneſs to relieve; and that thou haſt been pleaſed moſt compaſſionately to conſider our miſerable condition, in ſending Chriſt Jeſus into the world, and filling him with all the treaſures of thy grace and mercy, that he might diſpenſe them to us, according to our ſeveral neceſſities.

O how excellent is thy loving kindneſs, O God! How ſurpaſſing is thy love! that will paſs by the inſolent offences of thy creatures againſt thy high authority, and Soveraign goodneſs; and not let them eternally periſh without a remedy in that forlorn condition into which they have brought themſelves

Bleſſed

Bleſſed, for ever bleſſed be thy ſparing Mercy; which hath *delivered Chriſt Jeſus for our offences*; and teſtified thy acceptance of his Sacrifice of himſelf, by *raiſing him again for our juſtification*. Bleſſed by thy name, for the gracious declaration which thou haſt made, *that if any man ſin, we have an advocate with thee, Chriſt Jeſus the righteous, who is the propitiation for our ſins*. 1 Joh. 2. 1, 2. I moſt thankfully receive theſe glad tidings, *which are worthy of all acceptation, that Jeſus Chriſt came into the world to ſave ſinners*. 1 Tim. 1. 15. Thanks be to thy tender mercy, which hath reſtored us to a poſſibility of recovering thy grace and favour. The ſmalleſt hope of it, I acknowledge, is more valuable than the greateſt abundance of all the injoyments and pleaſures of this preſent life. What praiſe therefore, what love, what obedience am I bound to render unto thee, who haſt given me ſuch a

good hope of peace and reconciliation with thee; and thereby delivered me from the horror of my own guilty mind, remembring that I have adventured to oppose my will to thine? I ought for ever, with the most zealous devotion of a grateful and obedient heart, to admire and stand amazed at thy inconceiveable Grace, which will not strictly mark what is done amiss; but accept of our repentance and amendment, instead of an intire and constant performance of our duty to thee. *O the heighth, the depth, the length and the breadth of thy love in Christ Jesus!* which is the satisfaction of our heart, and the joy of our lives; which would otherwise be intolerably grievous and burdensome to us, whilst we remember that we are sinners.

Fill me, O Lord, with a most ardent love to thee, now that I here offer up my self, in truth and sincerity of heart, to be wholly disposed by

by thee. Behold, O Lord, my will lies at thy feet: I would have no will of my own; but desire only that thy will may be done. And fill me with an holy fear of thee, that thy indulgent mercy may not make me remiss, and negligent, and presumptous again to offend thee: But a perpetual sense of my new obligations to thee, in reviving my hopes, which I had forfeited in thee, may render me more watchful, more diligent, more earnest and solicitous, more humble and distrustful of my self, and more fervent to implore the powerful succours of thy divine Grace. O that it may be as natural to me to pray to thee, as it is to breath. And thou *who fillest the hungry with good things*, pour into me life, and strength and vigor; in a constant dependance on thee, and an hearty indeavour to do thy will. *Strengthen me with might, by thy spirit in the inner man*: That notwithstanding Ephes. 3. 16.

the ſtrongeſt temptations wherewith I may be aſſaulted, and notwithſtanding the weakneſs and feebleneſs of my own ſpirit to reſiſt them, I may perſevere couragiouſly in well doing unto the end; and finiſh my courſe with joy; and lay my ſelf down to reſt in an holy hope, that I ſhall enter into a ſtate of ſafety and ſecurity from all danger, and remain for ever in the joy of our Lord. *Amen.*

A Prayer for the Divine Grace.

O Moſt bleſſed God, the high and mighty One, who inhabi reſt eternity; and art, what thou al ways waſt, and ever wilt be, the moſ perfect power, wiſdom, goodne and truth; the fountain of all th perfections that are in us. We ough to addreſs our ſelves to thee in th greateſt humility of ſpirit: havin

no

nothing to preſent thee withal which we can call our own; & being unable by all our righteouſneſs to profit thee, who ſtandeſt in need of none of thy creatures. But alas! O Lord, we have robbed thee of that which we have received from thee; and are ſo far from giving thee any thing of ours, that we have not returned to thee that which is thine. O the miſerable condition therefore into which we have brought our ſelves! who are not ſo much as fit to receeive any more from thy divine bounty; and, which is worſe, have been too unwilling to partake of thy favours! O thy infinite love in Chriſt Jeſus, which hath beſtowed the richeſt grace upon us, whether we would or no! Thou haſt honoured our nature with thy divine preſence, dwelling in it. Thou haſt delivered him to dye for our ſins. Thou haſt given us the bleſſed hope in thee, by his Reſurrection from the dead. Thou haſt *ſent him to bleſs us, in turning every*

one

one of us from our iniqui-
Act. 3. 26. *ties:* And given him all power in heaven and earth; that he may succour and strengthen us when we are tempted, and enable us to overcome.

I thank thee, with all my soul, for this abundant grace, so freely and undesired, conferred upon us. Which incourages me to hope in thee, now that thou inclinest my heart towards thee, and hast given me a thankful sense of thy love, and some will to obey thee, and holy resolutions to cleave unto thee in well doing; that thou wilt not deny me the constant assistance of that good Spirit which our Saviour hath bid us ask of thee to strengthen, confirm and settle what thou hast begun to do for me in a perfect love and stedfast obedience to all thy holy commands. O God of all grace and might, the root of our life, and power and strength; without whom all good desires and purposes wither and die:

with

withdraw not the ſweet influences of thy holy Spirit from thy unworthy ſervant, who intirely confides in thee, and hath no hope but in thy infinite Mercies. Remember not againſt me former iniquities; let not my late back-ſliding and return to folly, cut me off from the communication of thy grace: which is wont to preſs into thoſe ſouls that open themſelves to receive it, and ſeriouſly thirſt after it. My ſoul thirſteth for thee, O God; that I may be more firmly united to thee, and be made more exactly like thee, in unchangeable righteouſneſs, purity and goodneſs.

Cheriſh and increaſe the moſt faint but ſincere motions, which thou ſeeſt in me, towards a more compleat participation of thee. And eſpecially preſerve in me a full confidence in thy Almighty Love, as ready to accompliſh the deſires and indeavours of all thoſe, who yield up themſelves unto it, in hearty willingneſs to be governed by it. That being born

up

up by this ſtrong hope in thee, my helper, and exceeding great reward, no temptation may be able to prevail over me: but I may walk ſtedfaſtly and evenly with thee, in all conditions and circumſtances of life. Make me feel ſo much of the comfort of this faith and love, and hope and obedience, reviving me to a delightful ſenſe of a bleſſed immortality; that whatſoever allurements or diſcouragements I meet withal in this world, they may only provoke me to give a greater proof of all theſe in a conſtant adherence to my duty; and occaſion the increaſe of my unſpeakable joy and ſatisfaction.

And inlarge my heart thereby to ſuch a meaſure of Chriſtian piety, that I may not only be innocent and harmleſs, but forward alſo to do good; and not only be contented with my portion, but rejoyce in our Lord alway: and rejoyce not only to do thy will, but to ſuffer alſo for righteouſneſs

neſs ſake; knowing that great ſhall be my reward in heaven. Bleſs my indeavours to add *to faith, vertue; and to vertue, knowledge; and to knowledge, temperance; and to temperance, patience; and to patience, godlineſs; and to godlineſs, brotherly kindneſs; and to brotherly kindneſs, charity: That, doing theſe things, I may never fall; But an entrance may be miniſtred to me abundantly, into the everlaſting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jeſus Chriſt.* Amen. 2 Pet. 1. 5, 6, 7. 10. 11.

A ſhort Prayer when any man's occaſions call him to a place where he fears danger.

O Almighty God; who art every where, and more eſpecially preſent to thoſe ſouls that look up unto thee, with an high eſteem

of

of thy favour and grace, and with hearty desires to continue in thy love by patient continuance in well doing. In this humble faith in thy Divine goodness, and with a due fear and reverence of thy glorious Majesty, I prostrate my soul and body before thee; to put my self into thy most gracious protection, and to beg the powerful assistance of thy holy Spirit, to preserve me whersoever I am, in a dutiful observance of all thy holy commands.

I am sensible, O Lord, that we live in a world of temptations, and that our nature is weak, and ready to yield to them; and that our affections are apt to wander after vanity, and that sudden passions oftentimes transport us from our duty. But I know withal that a sense of thy all-seeing eye, and of the life to come, and of the rewards and punishments which thou wilt render according to our works; will certainly overawe all sinful motions in me, and break

the

the force of the ſtrongeſt temptations that aſſault me. And therefore the greater the danger is, the more earneſtly I ſue unto thee, to be poſſeſſed with a piercing ſenſe, and lively remembrance of theſe things, which may abide with me alway; and eſpecially this day, in every place and company into which I ſhall come. O that I may not be ſo forgetful of thee, and of my own good, as for the ſmall and momentany pleaſures of this world, to hazard the loſs of thoſe great and eternal joys, which we expect in the other life. But enable me, O moſt gracious God, ſo to behave my ſelf, that when I have paſſed through all the imployments and occaſions of this day, I may bring my ſelf back again into thy preſence, ſo pure and undefiled; that I may begin thoſe joys which are to come, in chearful praiſes of thee; and in a comfortable ſenſe that thou dwelleſt in me, and art leading me by thy

thy holy Spirit to immortal happi-neſs, through Chriſt Jeſus. *Amen.*

A Prayer for ſerious and effectual Conſideration; the better to eſtabliſh all good reſolutions.

O Moſt glorious Majeſty of heaven and earth: who art above the higheſt of all our thoughts, and much more beyond all our words. But that thou art great and mighty, we know by thy works of wonder which we behold. And the admirable diſpoſure and government of all things tell us, that thou art infinitely wiſe and knoweſt all things. We ſee how good thou art, by the large proviſion which thou haſt made for all thy creatures, every where. Thy Precepts teach us how juſt and holy thou art; and by thy Promiſes we know that thou art gra-

gracious and bountiful; and by thy Threatnings that thou hateſt iniquity; and by thy executing of both, that thou art faithful and true, and wilt ſave the godly and puniſh evil doers.

When we conſider all this, we may juſtly wonder at our ſelves, that we ſhould not fear thee, and reverence thee, and love thee, and ſeek thy love and favour above all things; by ſtudying to pleaſe thee in univerſal obedience to thy bleſſed will; which deſigns to imploy thy Almighty Power to make us ſo great, ſo happy, and ſo glorious. And there is no other reaſon, I ſee, why we are no better affected towards thee, but becauſe our thoughts are exceeding ſhort, and light and vain; and we ſo ſeldom conſider and deeply ponder, what, we confeſs, thou art, and in what relation we ſtand to thy Divine Majeſty. Vouchſafe therefore, O God of all grace, to awaken my mind to a more lively

and

and ſtedfaſt remembrance of thee, my Creator, my Redeemer, my daily Benefactor, and my moſt loving and tender-hearted Father, in Chriſt Jeſus. O that no day may paſs without ſome ſerious and conſiderate thoughts of thoſe things, which ſo nearly concern my everlaſting welfare. And by thy powerful preſence with me, inlighten my mind to a clearer ſenſe of them. Quicken and inliven that ſenſe, I humbly beſeech thee, and make it ſo ſtrong and moving; that it may preſs upon my heart and affections, till it overcome me to ſurrender ſoul and body abſolutely unto thee.

Pardon all my former neglects of thee; and let them not hinder the influences of thy holy Spirit upon me, by which I may be changed into thy image and likeneſs. Sanctifie my underſtanding, that I may rightly conceive thy holy Truths, and fully apprehend them. Sanctifie my memory, that I may keep in mind all that

that I know of thee, and of thy bleſſed will revealed to us in Chriſt Jeſus. Sanctifie my will, that I may chearfully imbrace, and intirely conſent to thine, in all things. And ſanctifie all my affections, that I may love thee with all my heart, and ſoul, and ſtrength; and delight in thee more, than in all the contentments of this life; and hope more for thy glory, than all worldly preferments; and fear thee more than the greateſt potentate upon earth; and take more care for my ſoul and eternal things, than for this body and all its momentany pleaſures; and hate all ſin, more than my greateſt enemies: yea, help me to love mine enemies; to do good to them that do evil to me; to bleſs them that curſe me, and pray for them that deſpightfully uſe me. For which end, ſanctifie all my Paſſions; that I may be angry at nothing ſo much, as that I have diſpleaſed thee; and in an holy indignation at my ſelf, and in revenge

revenge of my former negligence and diſobedience, may be more ſtrict and ſevere in the performance of all my duty for the time to come. Sanctifie me throughout in body as well as ſpirit; that I may poſſeſs it in holineſs and honour: and all my ſenſes may adminiſter occaſions to my mind, to remember thee, to praiſe thee, and to bleſs thee, who every way ſo liberally provideſt for me. Sanctifie all my converſation with others, and all the imployments of this life; that I may ſtill be heavenly minded, and have a reſpect to my laſt end, and everlaſting good. Sanctifie all the bleſſings of health, and ſtrength, and peace, and plenty, and friends: yea, and all the croſſes and afflictions of this life; that they may make me more ſerious and conſiderate, and help more perfectly to purifie my ſpirit, and diſpoſe me for the happineſs of the other world.

Raiſe me, O Lord, to ſuch an exceeding

ceeding great delight in theſe holy thoughts and meditations; and entertain me with ſuch a bliſsful ſenſe of thee, when I addreſs my ſelf unto thee: that I may rather be unwilling to depart from thy preſence, than weary of converſing with thee. And when I return to my other imployments again, O that my mind may be often looking back towards thee, my God, my exceeding joy; deſirous to be always with thee, and longing to enjoy thee in unchangeable love, and perfect likeneſs to thee: Unto which I moſt humbly beſeech thee to bring me, for thy mercies ſake declared in Chriſt Jeſus, who lives for ever to make interceſſion for us. *Amen.*

The

THe better to preſerve a conſtant ſenſe of God in the mind, and pious diſpoſitions in the heart: Here follow certain ſhort Ejaculations (as we are wont to call them) in which, upon ſeveral occaſions, any man may lift up his ſoul to God: And if he do it fervently, may find it of great effect.

EJACULATIONS.

When he awakes in the morning, he may ſay,

I *Laid me down and ſlept; I awaked, for the Lord ſuſtained me,* Pſal. 3. 5.

How

How precious also are thy thoughts unto me, O God? how great is the sum of them? If I would count them; they are more in number than the sand: when I awake, I am still with thee, Psal. 139. 17, 18.

When he is dressing himself.

O how bountiful is the ornament of a pure, humble, meek, patient and charitable spirit! Help me, O God, to *put on the Lord Jesus,* in these and all other vertues.

When he goes into the Church, or his Closet.

My heart is fixed, O God, my heart is fixed: I will sing and give praise, Psal. 57. 7.

When he begins any business.

My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth, Psal. 121. 2.

The Lord Jesus Christ be with my spirit, 2 Tim. 4. 22.

When he goes forth of his doors.

Hold thou up my goings in thy paths, that my foot-steps slip not, Psal. 17. 5. *Order my steps in thy word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me*, 119. 133. *Give thy angels charge over me, to keep me in all my ways*, 91. 11.

When he walks abroad and beholds all things round about him, he may say as it is *Psal.* 104. 24.

O Lord, how manifold are thy works! in wisdom hast thou made them all: the earth is full of thy riches, &c.

At Meals.

O taste and see that the Lord is good. He filleth our hearts with food and gladness, Psal. 24. 8. Act. 14. 17.

Blessed

Bleſſed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with his beneſits, Pſal.68.19.

At Candle-light.

Lord, liſt thou up the light of thy countenance upon us, Pſal.4.6. Or, *God be merciful unto us and bleſs us, and cauſe his face to ſhine upon us*, 67.1.

When he goes to bed.

I will both lay me down in peace, and ſleep: for thou, Lord, only makeſt me dwell in ſafety, Pſal.4.8.

He that keepeth me doth not ſlumber. The Lord is my keeper: the Lord is my defence, who neither ſlumbers, nor ſleeps, Pſal.121.4,5.

In the Night ſeaſon.

O happy ſouls, that *reſt not day nor night, ſaying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord*

God Almighty, which was, which is, and is to come! Rev. 4.8.

O great God! the *darkneſs hideth not from thee; but the night ſhineth as the day: the darkneſs and the light are both alike to thee,* Pſal. 139.12.

My ſoul ſhall be ſatisfied as with marrow and fatneſs; and my mouth ſhall praiſe thee with joyful lips: when I remember thee upon my bed, and meditate on thee in the night watches. Becauſe thou haſt been my help; therefore in the ſhadow of thy wings will I rejoyce, Pſal. 63.5,6,7.

On a ſick-bed, or in other affliction.

It is the Lord: let him do what ſeemeth him good, 1 Sam. 3.18.

It is good that a man ſhould both hope, and quietly wait for the ſalvation of the Lord, Lam. 3.26.

Bleſſed be the Lord for my long continued health and all his other benefits. Let the remembrance of thy former mercies refreſh

freſh my ſoul, and incourage my hope, and ſtrengthen my patience, with quiet reſignation of my ſelf to thy good pleaſure.

At the point of Death.

I have waited for thy ſalvation, O Lord, Gen.49.18.

Into thy hand, O Father, I commend my ſelf, who breathedſt into me the breath of Life. *Lord Jeſus receive my ſpirit*, which thou haſt redeemed by thy precious bloud, and ſanctified by the holy Ghoſt.

When he hears a Paſſing-bell.

Verily, every man at his beſt ſtate is altogether vanity, Pſal.39.5.

O teach me ſo to number my days, that I may apply my heart unto wiſdom, 90.12.

In a time of Plague.

O Lord, correct us, but with judgement; not in thine anger, lest thou bring us to nothing, Jer. 10. 24.

In a time of War.

O Lord, arise, help us and deliver us for thy names sake.

From our enemies defend us, O Christ. Graciously look upon our affliction.

King *Asa* cryed unto God in this manner when he was going to give battle to a million of enemies.

Lord, it is nothing with thee to help, whether with many, or with them that have no power. Help us, O Lord our God, for we rest on thee, and in thy name go against this multitude, 2 Chron. 14. 11.

In any other publick Calamity.

Spare thy people, O Lord, and give not thy heritage to reproach, Joel 2.17.

A great Offender may often say with the Prodigal,

Father, I have sinned against thee, and am no more worthy to be called thy son. And with the Publican,

God be merciful to me a sinner.

After any mercy received.

What shall I render unto the Lord, for all the benefits that he hath done unto me? Psal. 116.12.

Every day will I give thanks unto thee, and praise thy name for ever and ever, 145.1.

I shall mention no more, because I would not invite the Reader to

make this sort of Prayer too common. For by that means, it will be in danger to grow cold, and lose its force and efficacie, by growing fashionable. To that purpose I remember a devout Prelate of our own (Bishop *Hall*) somewhere delivers his judgement about this matter. But if any one find that he can with profit turn his thoughts this way, upon all occasions; he may easily invent more Ejaculations. *The measure of them is,* (as that forenamed person speaks) *to preserve our hearts in a constant tender and godly disposition; which shall be further actuated upon all opportunities, by the exercise of our more inlarged and fixed devotions.*

A Prayer for Submiſsion to God, in caſe of any great loſs in a mans Eſtate, Relations or Friends.

O Moſt Holy, holy, holy; the Supreme Lord and Governour of the world: who art unſearchable in thy Wiſdom, unſpotted in thy Juſtice, and irreſiſtable in thy Power: whoſe goodneſs hath no bounds, but what thy wiſe and holy Will gives unto it; and art immutable in theſe and all other perfections, the great God, moſt bleſſed for ever. It is moſt reaſonable and agreeable to our nature, moſt profitable and convenient to our intereſt, moſt ſatisfactory and ſuitable to our wiſeſt choice, by an abſolute and quiet ſubmiſſion in all things to thy ſoveraign Wiſdom, Juſtice and Goodneſs, to declare our fear and

reverence of thee; our unfeigned love to thee, and desires to please thee; our trust and confidence in thee; and ready disposition to obey thee.

Thou art too great, I know, to delight in grieving us thy poor creatures; and hast other ways of procuring thy own pleasure, than by our misery, pain and torment. And therefore in a full perswasion of thy unerring providence over us, and infinite Charity towards us, I here most humbly and freely resign all my thoughts and desires unto thee, submitting my self intirely to thy Orders, and resolving by thy gracious assistance to rest contented with whatsoever thou appointest. The Lord *gave, and the Lord* Job 1.21. *hath taken away; blessed be the Name of the Lord.* Blessed be thy name, who hast continued to me so long, the enjoyment of so many good things. Blessed be thy name that I had any thing to part with

whereby

whereby I may teſtifie my faith in thee, and affection to thee. Bleſſed be thy name, that I have any of the comforts of this life ſtill remaining, and that they are not all taken away from me. I have nothing too great, or too dear to be reſigned to thee: from whoſe bounty I received all I have; and who art my beſt, and my eternal friend.

O that no repining thoughts may riſe in my heart, to diſorder and diſcompoſe my duty towards thee, or towards my neighbour. But help me rather to think wherein I have offended thee, and carefully to amend it; to place my affections more ſtedfaſtly on thoſe unmoveable things which are above; to lay up my treaſure and hope in heaven; and to prepare my ſelf, by perfecting my purity, and thankfulneſs, and patience, and all other vertues, to be tranſlated thither, where our life is hid in thee with Chriſt Jeſus. I thank thee, O Father of Mercies, that

thou

thou haſt given us ſuch everlaſting conſolation, through thy Grace, in him. Every day will I bleſs thee, and I will praiſe thy name for ever and ever; for thoſe exceeding great and precious promiſes which thou haſt given us to ſupport and comfort us, in all the troubles of this life. Increaſe my faith; ſtrengthen and confirm my hope; lift up my ſpirit continually to that bleſſed place where Jeſus is: that I may rejoyce in hope of that immortal life, when all tears ſhall be wiped from our eyes, and there ſhall be no ſighing nor ſorrow any more; but we [* who are now parted aſunder] ſhall meet together to acknowledge, with eternal praiſes, thy wiſe and merciful providence, which by ways moſt contrary to our deſires hath brought us to endleſs and undiſturbed bliſs.

** This clauſe to be uſed only in the loſs of Friends or Relations.*

Thou knoweſt, O Lord, the weakneſs and frailty of our nature, and there-

therefore vouchſafe me the conſtant aſſiſtance of thy good Spirit, (for which I depend upon thee) to inable me to continue in this humble, quiet and dutiful ſubmiſſion to thee: waiting for that peaceable and joyful repoſe, in the eternal reſt which thou haſt prepared for thy people; through thy mercies in Chriſt Jeſus: By whom all glory, honour, love and obedience be rendred to thee, by me and all mankind, both now and for ever. *Amen.*

A Prayer which a pious ſoul may uſe, that is full of doubts, and much troubled in mind.

O Lord, the *Father of mercies and the God of all comfort.* 2 Cor. 1. 3. I acknowledge and adore thy eternal Power, Wiſdom and Goodneſs. I render thee my moſt

moſt hearty thanks for all the benefits thou haſt freely beſtowed on me, from my firſt coming into the world until this time. *Many, O Lord my God, are thy wonderful works which thou haſt done, and thy thoughts, which are to us ward, they cannot be reckoned up in order unto thee: if I would declare and ſpeak of them, they are more than can be numbered.* Above all I bleſs thee for that great demonſtration of thy love and good will to mankind by Chriſt Jeſus, whom thou haſt ſent into the world to ſave ſinners: and for bringing me to the clear knowledge of him, faith in him, and ſome love, I hope, towards him, and unfeigned affection to thy holy will, declared to us in his bleſſed Goſpel.

Pſal. 40. 5.

O God, thou haſt taught me from my youth up, and hitherto been marvailouſly gracious to me. Hide not, I beſeech thee, thy face now from me; and put not thy ſervant away

away in displeasure. Thou hast been my help: leave me not, neither forsake me, O God of my salvation. But, for Jesus Christ his sake, I humbly intreat thee to pardon and pass by all my neglects of thee, and unthankfulness to thee, and offences against thee. And as I here sincerely devote and dedicate my whole self, soul and body, to thy service; so help me, O my God, and further me in the performance of my duty, by the grace of thy holy Spirit. To thee all hearts are open, and from thee no secrets are hid: deal with me according to the earnest desire and full purpose of my soul, to conform my self in all things to thy holy Will.

Settle in me an unmoveable faith in thy infinite Mercies, a constant love and chearful affection to my duty, and a readiness of heart to obey thee, and to submit to thy wise appointments in every condition. The whole earth is full of thy Mercy: thou

thou openeſt thy hand and ſatisfieſt the deſire of every living thing: O refuſe not the humble deſires of my poor ſoul, which gaſpeth after thee, even as the thirſty land. Thou who giveſt to the Beaſts their food, and to the young Ravens when they cry; O ſatisfie me early with thy Mercies, that I may rejoyce and be glad all my days. Compoſe my broken and diſturbed thoughts: quiet my troubled and diſordered ſpirit; and appeaſe all the ragings and tumults there, by a ſweet ſenſe of thy moſt tender mercies, which have been ever of old, and endure continually. Baniſh from me all cauſleſs fears and jealouſies: deliver me from all unprofitable ſadneſs and dejection of ſpirit: keep me from raſh judging of my ſelf, and much more from charging thee fooliſhly. Beſtow upon me a chearful ſpirit, by an humble hope in thee; and by referring my ſelf wholly to thee. Endue me with ſuch wiſdom and uprightneſs,

rightneſs, that I may neither neglect my duty, nor ſuſpect thy gracious acceptance of me. Give me an hearty zeal to do the beſt that I am able; and a ſetled perſwaſion that thou requireſt no more of me. Defend me, O my gracious God, from diſhonouring thee and my Religion; by diſtruſting thy goodneſs, and calling thy loving kindneſs in queſtion towards thoſe, that are ſincerely bent to pleaſe thee. Remove all troubleſome imaginations from me; and give me a clear underſtanding of thee, and of my ſelf. Or when I am in darkneſs and confuſion of thoughts, grant me ſo much light and judgement, as not to conclude my ſelf forſaken by thee, but to reflect upon thy long continued favours to me and many deliverances of me; that ſo I may reſolve ſtill to hope in thee, to bear my preſent trouble patiently, and to reſign my will abſolutely to thy good pleaſure. And, good Lord, enable me to look

be-

beyond theſe clouds, to that bleſſed ſtate whither my Saviour is gone; in which there is no darkneſs at all: and in an humble hope of coming to the ſame place where he is, to content my ſelf with any condition whilſt I am here, ſo far remote from that Region of light and glory.

Hear me, moſt loving and merciful Father, I moſt humbly beſeech thee. Pitty my great dulneſs and deadneſs of heart. Strengthen my weak and feeble endeavours. Support my fainting ſpirit; and cauſe it humbly to hope in thee for ever. Confirm and eſtabliſh every good thought, deſire and purpoſe which thou haſt wrought in me. Perfect that which thou haſt begun. Make me to grow in wiſdom, faith, love, and willing obedience. Conduct me hereafter ſo evenly and ſteadily, ſo peaceably and quietly, ſo chearfully and ſecurely in thy ways; that I may glorifie thee whilſt I live, by incouraging

raging others to accompany me in thy ſervice. And when I come to dye, may reſign my ſoul unto thee with an undiſturbed mind; and in an holy hope alſo of a joyful reſurrection of the body, at the great day of the Lord Jeſus; to whom be glory and dominion for ever. *Amen.*

A Prayer to be ſaid by others for one that is troubled in mind.

O God, the only Hope, the Refuge, the Comfort and ſatisfaction of our ſouls: Of whoſe Goodneſs and tender mercy all the world hath ſo many teſtimonies, and we our ſelves have had ſuch long experience, that we are incouraged thereby, though moſt unworthy, to make this humble addreſs to thy Divine Majeſty.

Thou

Thou ſeeſt, we know, and pitieſt the miſery and torment of this afflicted ſpirit; none of his * ſighs or groanings are hid from thee: But to expreſs alſo our charity and compaſſionate concernment for him, we are bold to recommend him to thy favour, as a great object of the bowels of thy mercy, which are in Chriſt Jeſus.

* Or her.

We ought indeed, above all things, to admire thy moſt wiſe goodneſs, which *hath ſet forth him to be a propitiation, through faith in his blood*; and invited even the greateſt ſinners to return unto thee and live. Bleſſed, eternally bleſſed, be thy great and glorious grace, which hath ſent us ſuch glad tidings of peace and reconciliation, and aſſured hope; that if we obediently believe thy holy Goſpel, *thou wilt be merciful to our ſins, and remember our iniquities no more.* O Father of mercies, who *openeſt the eyes of the blind*

Rom. 3. 25.

Heb. 8. 12.

blind, and raiſeſt them that are bowed down; o- Pſal. 146. 8.
pen the eyes of this thy ſervant, that he may ſee thy marvailous love revealed in Chriſt Jeſus. Touch his ſpirit with ſuch a powerful ſenſe of it, that he may both heartily and abſolutely conſent to be governed by thy Laws, and likewiſe be revived with a comfortable belief of the truth of all thy precious promiſes.

Free him from all confuſion of thoughts, and beſtow on him a clear and diſtinct apprehenſion of all things belonging to his peace. And as thou haſt wrought in him a fear of thy Divine Majeſty, and many holy deſires after thee; and perſwaded him, we hope, to be willing in all things to live godlily: So poſſeſs him with an humble belief that thou wilt always inable him to do accordingly; and never fail to ſtrengthen him againſt all the power of the enemy, till he hath got the victory, and triumphs in hope of thy ſalvation.

Raiſe

Raiſe up his ſpirit, moſt mighty Lord, by the power of a moſt ſtrong faith in thine Omnipotent Goodneſs: which delights to cheriſh the leaſt gaſpings and pantings in us after true righteouſneſs. Bear him up by this above all the clouds wherein he is incompaſſed, into a clear heaven of light and joy. Quiet and appeaſe all his tumultuous paſſions, that he may ſilently liſten to thy voice in thy holy Goſpel, ſaying; *Come unto me all ye that labour, and are heavy laden, and I will give you reſt.* Thou who ſearcheſt the hearts, knoweſt that he unfeignedly ſubmits himſelf to the yoke of thy Laws. It is the preſent grief and affliction of his ſoul, that he is not more perfectly ſubject to it. O refreſh him with the belief, that thou art more deſirous than he that there ſhould be a perfect reconciliation of his very nature and diſpoſition to thee: and that therefore thou wilt not deny him the aſſiſtance of thy mighty grac

Matth. 11. 28.

grace to help him to fulfil thy whole good will and pleaſure.

O that he may take courage from this hope to begin to do thy will; and continuing in well doing, and growing more and more in ſtrength and power to perform his duty, he may be delivered from all ſlaviſh fears, and jealouſies, and diſtruſt of thy divine goodneſs. Eſpecially keep him from deſpair of thy mercy, as the greateſt diſhonour to thee, and to thy abundant grace in the Lord Jeſus.

O thou who didſt invite even thoſe great ſinners, who by *wicked hands took and crucified thy dear Son, to repent and be baptized for the remiſſion of ſins:* Act. 2.23,38. Liſt up this dejected ſoul to an humble confidence in thee, that thou wilt not deny him the ſame mercy. And as thou haſt ſworn that thou haſt no pleaſure in the death of the wicked, but that he ſhould turn from his evil way and live: ſo be pleaſed, bleſſed God,

God, to make him ſenſibly feel his ſoul is turning to thee; ſince he can find no comfort and ſatisfaction, but only in thy love and favour, which he eſteems better than life it ſelf. And that he may obtain thy pardon, help him *from his heart to forgive every one that hath* Matth. 18. 35. *treſpaſſed againſt him.* And Luk. 19. 8. if *he have taken any thing from any man wrongfully,* 11. 41. grant him grace to *reſtore it* to him: *To give alms* Dan. 4. 27. *likewiſe of ſuch thing as he hath, and to break off* Job 33. 26. *his ſins by righteouſneſs, & his iniquities by ſhewing mercy to the poor*; that thou, who art rich in mercy, mayſt *be favourable unto him, and he may ſee thy face with joy.*

Hear us, good Lord, and give every one of us grace to walk exactly, and to keep pure conſciences, void of offence towards thee and towards all men: that ſo we may live and die in peace; looking for

for thy mercy in Chriſt Jeſus unto eternal life. *Amen.*

Another for a perſon in the ſame condition.

O Lord, the Father of ſpirits, the Lover of our ſouls: who art pleaſed beſt in our love and hearty affection to thee; and wouldſt have us delight our ſelves in the thoughts of thee, and rejoyce continually in thy holy name. Give us leave to render our humble thanks to thy divine Majeſty, for this knowledge which thou haſt given us of thy bleſſed Nature; and in imitation of it, to recommend with moſt fervent charity, this deſolate and afflicted ſoul to thy tender Mercies. He is filled with trembling thoughts and frightful apprehenſions of thee. The dread and terror of thy diſplea-

O ſure

ſure hath overwhelmed his ſpirit. Pſal. 38. 6. *He is troubled, and bowed down greatly; he goeth mourning all the day long.* O that thou wouldſt be pleaſed ſo to repreſent thy ſelf unto him, that he may be poſſeſſed with the ſame ſenſe which thou haſt wrought in our minds; that *thou art Love*, and deſireſt to be loved, and chearfully ſerved by all that worſhip thee.

Thou haſt graciouſly wrought in him already a ſenſe of his duty towards thee. Great ſorrow overflowes his ſoul for his neglects of thee, and offences againſt thee. And out of this depth he ſighs and groans and crys unto thee with earneſt deſires and purpoſes to live more holily for the time to come. Awaken his mind, good Lord, to very ſenſible and thankful reflections upon this grace which thou haſt begun to ſhow him. Bleſs all the pious counſels & inſtructions which thou likewiſe vouchſafeſt unto him, to the encouraging of his

hope

hope in thee, that thou *who haſt begun a good work in him wilt perfect it even until the day of Jeſus Chriſt.* Philip. 1. 6. Remember him that *as thy Majeſty is, ſo is thy mercy:* Eccluſ. 2. 18. and that thy power delights to ſhow it ſelf in doing good unto thy creatures; eſpecially to the humble, the thankful, and the willing perſons, who are ready to ſubmit themſelves to thy bleſſed Will. O that this divine faith may baniſh all thoſe fears that drive him from thee: and that he may rather fear leſt he ſhould offend thy Divine Majeſty, by not confiding in thoſe promiſes of mercy, which thou haſt made in thy holy Goſpel to all returning ſinners. O that all his thoughts and care hereafter may only be to make his purpoſe of pleaſing thee in all things, ſerious, hearty and unfeigned: believing that thou wilt graciouſly accept ſuch holy reſolutions, and certainly further

and ſucceed them as the effect of thine own inſpirations.

Suffer not his ſpirit to be oppreſſed under the ſenſe of his great weakneſs; or diſcouraged, though he fall ſhort of his preſent holy deſires, purpoſes and endeavours: But bear him up in a ſtrong perſwaſion, that by ſincere, conſtant and unwearied diligence in well doing, he ſhall at laſt obtain the victory; through the power of thy holy Spirit aſſiſting of him. Make him ſee how reaſonable it is moſt gratefully to acknowledge thy infinite Mercies, if after much pains, many conflicts and long patience, he may recover a ſtate of friendſhip with thee. That ſo he may not ſpend his time in dejected complaints, nor ever faint in his mind, or deſpond in the Chriſtian courſe: but ſtill purſue the compleat maſtery over himſelf, in aſſured hope that thou wilt be with him, and never leave him or forſake him.

We bleſs thee for that inſtance of thy

thy exceeding grace to the chiefeſt of ſinners, which thou gaveſt in thy holy Apoſtle of us Gentiles: *Who was a blaſphemer, and a perſecutor, and injurious; but for this cauſe obtained mercy, that in him Chriſt Jeſus might ſhow forth all long-ſuffering, for a pattern to them which ſhould hereafter believe on him to life everlaſting.* 1 Tim. 1. 13, 16.

Above all we bleſs thee for our Lord Jeſus himſelf, whom thou ſenteſt in our fleſh, that he might ſave ſinners. We bleſs thee for all the miraculous cures which he wrought on miſerable creatures, whereby he demonſtrated his great charity towards us: For the gracious proclamation he hath made of thy pardoning mercy: and for the Univerſal invitation which he hath given to every one, *that is a thirſt to come and take the waters of life freely.* Rev. 22. 17. We 1 Joh. 2. 2. thank thee for his death upon the Croſs, that he Luk. 23. 34.

might

might make a propitiati-
Act. 5. 31. on for the ſins of the
2 Cor. 5. 18. whole world: for his
Matth. 26. 28. great love in praying then
Heb. 7. 25. for his bittereſt enemies,
2. 17. that they might be for-
4. 15. given: for his reſurrecti-
on and exaltation at thy
right hand, *to be a Prince and a Savi-our, to give repentance, and forgive-neſs of ſins.* And that he hath given to his Apoſtles, the *Miniſtry of recon-ciliation*; and admitted us into Covenant of mercy and forgiveneſs by Baptiſm into his Name; and hath left us the cup of bleſſing, which *is the New Covenant in his blood for the remiſſion of ſins*; and gi-ven power and authority to his Mi-niſters to abſolve all thoſe who hear-tily repent, and unfeignedly believe his holy Goſpel. We thank thee, O Lord, for the aſſurance we have *that he lives for ever to make interce-ſion for us, and is able to ſave to the uttermoſt all thoſe that come to the*

by him: and that he *is a merciful and faithful High-prieſt, to make reconciliation for the ſins of the people; being touched with a feeling of all our miſeries.*

We cannot doubt, O bleſſed God, of thy gracious intentions and deſires to pardon us, and to make us better, when we ſeriouſly meditate on all theſe teſtimonies of thy Divine love; and on that eaſie and gentle yoke, which thou layeſt on us to love thee with all our heart, and our neighbour as our ſelves: and on the promiſed aſſiſtance which we have hopes of from above, to inſpire, inliven, and ſtrengthen us, to all well doing, and patient ſuffering. O that this languiſhing ſoul may likewiſe feel the comfortable influence of all theſe heavenly Truths reviving and chearing his ſpirit into a good hope in thee; that thou wilt mercifully accept the oblation which he is willing to make of himſelf to thee, and alſo conſtantly inable him to

offer himself with greater affection and more pure devotion to thy service. Scatter all the clouds that darken his mind, and lift upon him the light of thy countenance. *O give him the comfort of thy help again, and stablish him with thy free spirit.* Psal. 51. 12. 143. 11. 4. 7. 85. 6. *Quicken him, O Lord, for thy names sake: for thy righteousness sake bring his soul out of trouble.* 2 Thess. 1. 11. *Put gladness into his heart, and revive him again; that he and we may rejoyce in thee.* 1 Tim. 1. 14. Amen; Amen, O God of all grace; *fulfill in him all the good pleasure of thy goodness, and the work of faith with power: that the name of our Lord may be glorified in him; according to that grace which was exceeding abundant, with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus; To whom be glory and praise for ever and ever.* Amen.

When

WHen ſickneſs arreſts any perſon, it is time for him preſently in the very beginning of it to ſearch and try his ways; *ſorrowfully to confeſs the ſins of which he finds himſelf guilty, with a full purpoſe of amendment; to adviſe with his Spiritual Guide; and before his ſpirit be feeble and broken to recommend himſelf heartily to our bleſſed Saviour, by receiving the Communion of his body and bloud; thereing making a commemoration of his wonderful love, and devoting himſelf again to his ſervice: And having ſet his houſe in order (as th*

Prophet ſaid to Hezekiah, Iſa. 38.1.) *and ſetled his eſtate, to acknowledge Gods great goodneſs to him hitherto, and to ſubmit himſelf wholly to his good pleaſure, in ſuch manner as followeth.*

A Prayer in the beginning of a Sickneſs.

O Lord, the Soveraign of the world; *who doeſt what thou pleaſeſt in heaven and in earth*; and delighteſt moſt in acts of bounty, as all thy works every where declare; and art *full of compaſſion and mercy, long-ſuffering and very pittiful, and forgiveſt ſins, and ſaveſt in time of affliction.* I acknowledge my ſelf, among the reſt of thy creatures, to be moſt deeply indebted

Pſal.135.6.

Eccluſ.2.11.

debted to thee: whoſe life thou haſt prolonged to this time in much health, plenty and peace; together with the enjoyment of ſpiritual bleſſings in the Lord Jeſus. I thank thee, and praiſe thee; all that is within me bleſſes thy holy name: to whoſe wiſe and good Providence I wholly refer my ſelf for the time to come; placing my intire truſt and confidence in thy almighty Goodneſs, Faithfulneſs, and Truth, which endures for ever.

I ought to receive with all thankfulneſs whatſoever comes from thy hand; and believe that to be good for me, which thy infinite wiſdom and kindneſs orders and allots for my portion. Accordingly I accept with all humble and dutiful affection, this thy Fatherly chaſtiſement. I acknowledge thy care of me, and ſubmit to what thou wilt be pleaſed to lay upon me. If thou thinkeſt good to exerciſe me with a longer ſickneſs, and to let the preſent indiſpoſition

diſpoſition of my body, proceed to a greater diſorder; not my will, but thine, O heavenly Father, be done. I only wait on thee for the comfortable preſence of thy holy Spirit, to ſupport my ſoul by faith, and hope, and patience, under all the pains I may endure. Lay no more upon me, O Father of mercies, than I ſhall be able to bear; and lay upon me what thou pleaſeſt. Free me, for the preſent, from all murmuring and repining thoughts; and for the future, make the ſickneſs and anguiſh of my body, a bleſſed inſtrument to purge my ſpirit more perfectly from all pride and vanity, from all covetouſneſs and worldly-mindedneſs, and from all inordinate love of any of the pleaſures of this life. I believe, O bleſſed Jeſus, that thou liveſt for ever, who ſufferedſt and dyedſt for us: and that thou haſt a great compaſſion towards thoſe, who would gladly follow thee, though it be through ſufferings. Behold,

O

Lord, I commend my ſelf to thy mighty Love, deſiring above all things to be made conformable to thee, in meekneſs, in humility, in patience, in intire reſignation to Gods holy will and pleaſure, and in perfect ſatisfaction in his Fatherly love and kindneſs, whatſoever my condition be.

I am ſenſible, O God, that I have not employed my time to the utmoſt advantage of my ſoul, and to thy honour & glory: but have waſted many precious hours, and ſeveral ways neglected my duty towards thee *, and been but an unprofitable part of this world; ſo that I am not worthy to continue any longer in it. But I hope thou wilt vouchſafe me thy gracious pardon and receive me to mercy, if thou calleſt me hence (for into thy hands, O Father, I commend my ſpirit, who haſt redeemed me by the precious bloud of Jeſus Chriſt:) And that if thou

* *Here reckon up the ſins you may have committed.*

thou prolongeſt my days on earth, I ſhall ſerve thee with greater diligence, and ſtrictneſs, and zeal, and chearfulneſs, to the end of my life.

I deſire not to live, but that I may perfect holineſs in thy fear; and ſecure to my ſelf, by doing more good, an happy entertainment into the ſociety of the bleſſed, in the other world. I ſee already the emptineſs and inſufficiency of all enjoyments upon earth. *All fleſh is graſs, and all the goodlineſs of it, as the flower of the field. The graſs withereth, the flower fadeth: But thy word ſtandeth faſt for ever. In thy word* therefore, O Lord, and gracious promiſes, *is my hope. This is my comfort in my affliction.* And my perfect contentment, I ſee, lyes always in thy love and favour alone, which is better than life it ſelf. O ſettle me in a certain and unmoveable poſſeſſion of it, by what means

Iſa. 40. 7.

Pſal. 119. 50, 81.

means thou pleaſeſt. Do but love me, and preſerve me in a lively ſenſe of thy good will towards me, and diſpoſe of me as thou thinkeſt good. *In the multitude of my thoughts within me, thy comforts ſhall delight my ſoul.* I will *rejoyce* even *in* the midſt of *tribulations, and glory in thy holy name, who makeſt all things work together for good to them that love thee. Though I walk through the ſhadow of death I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy power, and tender care, they ſhall comfort me.*

Pſal. 94. 19. Rom. 5. 2. 8. 28. Pſal. 23. 3. 30. 10.

Accept, Good Lord, of theſe my deſires and reſolutions. *Hear me, O God, and have mercy upon me. Lord, be thou my helper*; for Chriſt Jeſus his ſake, my ever bleſſed Redeemer. *Amen.*

IT will be ſeaſonable here to put the Devout Reader in mind, that when he is in diſtreſs and deſires Mercy of God; it ought to excite his charity to others that are in miſery, and diſpoſe him to ſhew mercy to them. For though that be not Canonical Scripture which we read, Tob. 12.9. Alms doth deliver from death; *yet this is;* With the merciful God will ſhew himſelf merciful. (*Pſal.* 18.25.) Bleſſed is he that conſidereth the poor; the Lord will deliver him in time of trouble. (41. 1, 2, 3.) *If he do not* preſerve him and keep him alive; *yet*

yet the Lord will ſtrengthen him upon the bed of languiſhing; he will make all his bed in his ſickneſs. *Therefore as thou recommendeſt thy ſelf to God, and deſireſt others to pray with thee, ſo remember that,* Prayer is good with faſting, and alms and righteouſneſs, *Tob.* 12. 8.

A Prayer to be ſaid by the Family with the Sick perſon.

O Lord, the Father of our ſpirits; who *giveſt* to us and all creatures, *life and breath, and all things.* We ſinful duſt and aſhes bluſh to lift up our eyes unto heaven, when we conſider our vaſt diſtance from thee; and reflect upon thy unſpotted holineſs, and our impurity; thy infinite

infinite wiſdom, and our wretched folly; thy power and our weakneſs; thy Eternity of life, and our ſhort continuance. *We are but of yeſterday, and know nothing, becauſe our days upon earth are a ſhadow. When thou with rebukes doſt correct man for iniquity, thou makeſt his beauty to conſume away like a moth: Surely every man is vanity.*

Job 8.9. Pſal. 39.11. Job 25.6.

But ſo great is thy condeſcending grace, that thou haſt aſſured us thou wilt not deſpiſe ſuch worms as we are. Nay, thou haſt incouraged us, bleſſed be thy goodneſs, to approach unto thee with ſome confidence, that thou wilt mercifully receive us, though we have highly offended thy Divine Majeſty: Having ſent thy dear Son into the world to ſave ſinners; to purifie our natures, to indue us with a divine underſtanding; to ſtrengthen our weakneſs, and to comfort us with the hope of an immortal life.

Behold,

Behold, O Lord, the oblation which we make to thee of moſt thankful hearts, devoted to thy ſervice: whoſe love and tender mercies have ſo exceedingly abounded towards us. We will praiſe thee, and glorifie thee as long as we have any being, for this great ſalvation which Chriſt Jeſus hath brought to light, by his reſurrection from the dead to an eternal Kingdom in the heavens. We are humbly bold to hope in thee, that thou who *haſt not ſpared thy own Son, but delivered him up for us all, wilt with him alſo freely give us all things.* Rom. 8. 32. O thou *Father of mercies, and God of all comfort*, who haſt not thought a Crown of everlaſting life and glory too much to promiſe us: we believe that thou wilt not deny us what is needful and fit for us, both for our ſouls and our bodies, in our paſſage through this world to that honour, glory and immortality.

In

In this confidence we more particularly recommend this thy ſick ſervant to thy infinite and moſt compaſſionate mercy. Settle in his * ſoul a ſtedfaſt faith, that thou *doſt not willingly grieve the children of men*; but intendeſt good to him by this affliction. And now that other pleaſures and enjoyments fail him, repreſent thy ſelf effectually unto him, as his true happineſs and ſatisfaction. Wherein ſoever he hath neglected thee, or committed any offence againſt thee, make him deeply ſenſible of, and heartily ſorrwful for, his folly. And as he earneſtly deſires pardon and forgiveneſs of thee; ſo work in him a ſerious reſolution to live more circumſpectly and exactly in time to come. Aſſiſt him graciouſly, O Lord; that he may give a proof of his ſincere intentions hereafter to ſubmit himſelf in all things to thy will, by his patient ſubmiſſion to thy fatherly correction now. O

* *Or her.*

that

that he may ſo quietly, ſo meekly, ſo humbly and chearfully reſign his will unto thee to ſuffer what thou inflicteſt; that he may be the more diſpoſed readily to deny his own deſires in doing whatſoever thou commandeſt.

For which end make him throughly apprehenſive of thy ſoveraign power and authority over all creatures. Poſſeſs him with a great reverence of thy wiſdom and juſtice; with an intire confidence in thy goodneſs and charity; and with a thankful remembrance of all thy paſt mercies to him, which have been innumerable. That ſo he may the better endure what thou layeſt upon him at preſent; and ever chuſe to follow thy directions, and ſubmit to thy orders, and love thy commandments, and delight to do thy will, O God.

Bleſs and ſucceed thoſe remedies that are uſed, for the reſtoring him to his former health; that he may

live

live to perform his holy purpoſes. Or if thou haſt otherwiſe appointed, accept of them graciouſly; and diſpoſe him to return back his ſpirit willingly unto thee who gaveſt it; and with great humility, and deep ſenſe of his own undeſervings to expect thy mercy declared in Chriſt Jeſus, who hath ſo highly merited of thee. Fix his mind ſtedfaſtly upon him, who hath led the way through the grave unto heaven: that he may not be affrighted with the approaches of death; but looking beyond it to that high and holy place where the Lord Jeſus is, may rejoyce in hope of thy eternal glory.

And give every one of us, in our beſt eſtate of health, to conſider perpetually how frail and weak we are. That ſo we may not abuſe our ſelves by an intemperate uſe of any of the pleaſures of ſenſe; nor load our minds with the cares of this life; nor ſpend our days in a vain purſuit of the honour and glory of this world:

But

But may *paſs all the time*
1 Pet. 1.17. *of our ſojourning here in*
Tit. 2. 12. *fear*, and live ſo *ſoberly, righteouſly and godlily, in this preſent world*, as becomes thoſe who expect ſhortly to give an account to thee, who wilt judge all men according to their works. Hear us, O Lord, we moſt humbly beſeech thee, through Chriſt Jeſus our merciful and compaſſionate High-prieſt; who ſits at thy right hand, and lives for ever to make interceſſion for us. In whoſe name we continue to recommend our ſelves, and friends, and all thy people to thee, as he hath taught us; ſaying;

Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name: Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread: And forgive us our treſpaſſes, as we forgive them that treſpaſs againſt us: And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, &c.

If

If the diſeaſe proceed to ſuch an extremity, that in all appearance the Soul is ready to depart, there is a Commendatory Prayer *appointed in the Publique offices of Devotion, to be ſaid by the Miniſter, whoſe aſſiſtance then ſure will be deſired. And beſides, the ſick perſon himſelf, as long as he is able, may thus recommend his ſoul unto Almighty God.*

A Prayer when a perſon is giving up the Ghoſt.

I Reſign my ſpirit, O God, moſt chearfully into thy hands: hoping

hoping to find mercy with thee hrough Chriſt Jeſus. I know no other name under heaven whereby may be ſaved, but thine alone, O bleſſed Jeſus; who *waſt dead, and art alive again, and liveſt for evermore.* I come un- Rev. 1. 18. o thee, O Lord, confiding in thy moſt precious promiſes, which I be- eve are *faithful and true* as thou art, or pardon and for immortal life.

Accept, I beſeech thee, of my moſt earty thanks for all thy mercies to e, from the beginning of my life to his moment. Paſs by all my ingra- tude and diſobedience. Receive e into the company of the *ſpirits f juſt men made perfect*, to give thee anks for ever.

And as I deſire to find mercy with ee; ſo I forgive all my enemies: eſeeching thee likewiſe to forgive em; and to bleſs and comfort all y friends, and to make thy whole hurch glorious; and to bring us l at laſt to live together in ever-

lasting love and joy, through Christ Jesus. *Amen.*

IF *God be pleased to restore the sick person to a state of health, publick Thanksgivings ought to be rendred to Almighty God for it. And together with the* Sacrifice of praise, which is the fruit of *our* lips, (*Heb.* 13. 15, 16.) *he ought not to* forget to do good, and to communicate *to them that are in misery*: for with such sacrifices God is pleased. *And to preserve a grateful remembrance of Gods mercy; here follows a Form of Thanksgiving to be used in private by himself, and by his friends, that are concerned in his recovery.*

A

A Thanksgiving after recovery from a Sickneſs, to be ſaid by the perſon himſelf who is reſtored to health.

O God, the fountain of life and of all good; who art continually more and more pouring forth thy benefits upon us. I thy poor creature, whoſe life thou haſt mercifully ſpared when I deſerved to be cut off, proſtrate my ſelf, in an humble ſenſe of thy divine goodneſs, to render thee my moſt hearty thanks, and to renew my vows, which I made in the day of my diſtreſs.

Bleſs the Lord, O my ſoul: and all that is within me, bleſs his holy name. Bleſs the Lord, O my ſoul, and forget not all his benefits. Who forgiveth all thine iniquities: Pſal. 103. 1, 2, 3, &c. 34. 8. 118, 17, 18. 111. 1.

who healeth all thy diſeaſes. Who redeemeth thy life from deſtruction: who crowneth thee with loving kindneſs and tender mercies. Who ſatisfieth thy mouth with good things: ſo that thy youth is renewed like the Eagles. The Lord is merciful and gracious, ſlow to anger, and plenteous in mercy. He will not always chide; neither will he keep his anger for ever. He hath not dealt with me after my ſins; nor rewarded me according to my iniquities. But as far as the East is from the Weſt: ſo far hath he removed my tranſgreſſions from me. O taſt and ſee, my ſoul, how gracious the Lord is: bleſſed is the man that truſteth in him. I ſhall not die, but live, and declare the works of the Lord. The Lord hath chaſtned me ſore: but he hath not given me over unto death.

I will give thanks therefore *unto the Lord with my whole heart; ſecretly among the faithful, and in the congregation.* I can do no leſs than dedicate this new life, which thou haſt be-

beſtowed upon me, intirely to thy ſervice: reſolving to employ more vigorouſly all thoſe powers of ſoul and body, which are ſo graciouſly reſtored unto me, unto thy honour and glory. For which end I moſt earneſtly deſire, to have a lively ſenſe preſerved in my mind, of thoſe things which were moſt powerful to move my heart towards thee, in the time of my ſickneſs. O that this world may ever appear unto me, as it was then repreſented to my mind! That I may never ſet my heart too much upon theſe periſhing enjoyments, and ſhort ſatisfactions; nor ever neglect thee, whoſe favour and grace I then ſought ſo earneſtly as my chiefeſt good: But remembring how little comfort I could find in any thing here; what a joy it was to have any hope in thee, the eternal God; and how that *in my beſt eſtate I am but altogether vanity*; I may moſt ſeriouſly apply my ſelf *to work out my ſalvation with fear and trembling*;

bling; and give all diligence to ſettle a ſtedfaſt hope in thee, that never may be ſhaken. Make me often to remember that *my days are but like a ſhadow that declineth, and that I wither like the graſs. But thou, O Lord, ſhalt endure for ever, for thou art the ſame, and thy years ſhall have no end.* That ſo, I may neither ſeek my happineſs in this dying life, but in thy endleſs love and favour; nor *be ſlothful in buſineſs; but fervent in ſpirit, ſerving the Lord.*

Pſal. 102. 11, 12, 27.

Rom. 12. 11.

Bleſſed be thy goodneſs that I feel theſe holy thoughts and deſires ſtill remaining in me. Excite me, I humbly beſeech thee, continually to renew them: that no day may paſs without ſerious reflections upon thy patient and long-ſuffering kindneſs towards me; upon the ſhortneſs of this life, the uncertainty of all earthly comforts, and the happineſs of having a good hope in thee, by ſted-

faſt

fast continuance in well doing. And let these thoughts be so deeply imprinted in my heart; that my affections may be weaned thereby from all things here below, and set on things above, where Christ is at thy right hand.

O that I may desire and covet those heavenly things for my portion, more than I do to eat and drink, or enjoy any other pleasure of this life. Make me to rejoyce in them, more than in a whole world of other comforts: and to stand in greater fear of losing them, than I do to dye, or endure any misery. Preserve in me, good Lord, such a sober and considerate disposition of mind, that I may never be proud, who am, I see, but dust and ashes: nor confident of my own strength and power, which is but weakness and vanity; nor distrustful of thee, who art so gracious and merciful, as well as mighty to save. Suffer me not to sink under any discourage-

ments, who have the everlasting arms under me, the wisdom of heaven to direct and guide me, and the infinite treasures of goodness to supply all my necessities.

And more particularly, I beseech thee to give me grace by my late confinement, weakness, dulness, want of appetite and rest, to learn to value very highly the benefits of liberty, strength and quickness of all my senses; and to bless thee, more than ever I have done, for the constant refreshments of my food in the day, and of undisturbed sleep in the night, together with the rest of the pleasures of life, to which thou hast restored me with my health. Make me perfectly contented in any state and condition, whilst I enjoy so great a blessing as that; which comprehends so many others in it. And when thou art pleased to take it again away from me; O that I may be able to be contented then also, in a remembrace of all thy past kind-

nesses

neſſes to me, and of a well-ſpent life, and careful improvement of this renewed health; and in hope of thy continued mercies to me in Chriſt Jeſus, even to eternal life. To which I humbly beſeech thee to bring me, by an unchangeable love and obedience to thee in all the changes and alterations of this mortal life; for his ſake who loved me and gave himſelf for me. To whom with thyſelf, in the Unity of the ſame ſpirit, be glory everlaſting. *Amen.*

A Thanksgiving to be ſaid by the Family.

O Moſt holy, great and glorious God; the Almighty Creator of heaven and earth: who upholdeſt all things by the word of thy power, and governeſt the whole world with admirable wiſdom, juſtice and

mercy. Thou deſerveſt the higheſt acknowledgements of all thy creatures. The Praiſes of Angels are not worthy of thee; nor any of their thoughts equal to thy infinite Majeſtie. What can we vile creatures then ſpeak of thee; or what thoughts ſhall we frame of thy perfections? Eſpecially of thy tranſcendent love, which hath moved thee in much compaſſion to conſider our weakneſſes, and help our infirmities? Thou haſt taught us by our Lord Jeſus what we ſhould think of thee: having vouchſafed to dwell among us, and make thy ſelf viſible unto us, not only as the moſt Wiſe and Mightie; but as the moſt Holy, Righteous, Gracious and Merciful Lord, who deſigneſt the greateſt bleſſings to us.

But now that we ſee thee, we have the greateſt reaſon to abhorr our ſelves in duſt and aſhes; when we conſider how unlike we are unto thee in thoſe excellent qualities wherein

wherein thou haſt made thy ſelf known unto us; and how unthankful we have been unto thy divine goodneſs, which hath ſo ſtrangely condeſcended unto us, who are unworthy of the leaſt regard from thee. And yet ſuch is thy tender mercy and pitty towards us, that thou haſt declared thy ſelf willing to entertain even the greateſt ſinners into thy favour, by making them better. We our ſelves have received innumerable tokens of thy great clemency, patience and forbearance. And now lately thou haſt been pleaſed to give us a new inſtance of thy loving kindneſs, and of thy deſire to win our hearts unto thee, in reſcuing one of us from going down into the grave, and reſtoring him to health and ſtrength again.

The living, the living, O Lord, *all praiſe thee, as we do this day:* Yea, *we will* Iſa. 38. 19. *bleſs thy name as long as we live, and ſing praiſes un-* Pſal. 104. 33.

Pſal. 86. 12, 13. *to thee, as long as we have any being. We will praiſe thee, O Lord our God, with* 118. 14, 15. *all our heart: and glorifie thy name for evermore. For great is thy mercy towards us: and thou haſt delivered* the ſoul of thy ſervant *from the loweſt hell. The Lord is our ſtrength and our ſong: and is become our ſalvation. The voice of joy and health is in our dwellings: the right hand of the Lord bringeth mighty things to paſs.*

O that there were ſuch an heart in every one of us, as to ſtudie ſeriouſly to know thee better, to meditate continually on thy benefits both to our ſouls and bodies, to love thee intirely, and to indeavour to be like unto thee; which is the deſign of thy goodneſs towards us. Empty our hearts of all other things, and make room for thy ſelf to dwell there, in wiſdom, righteouſneſs and true holineſs. Diſpoſe every one of us to follow Jeſus Chriſt our Maſter

ſter *in lowlineſs, patience and charity; and to be ordered by the governance of his holy Spirit; ſeeking always his glory, and ſerving him duly in our vocation with thanksgiving.* Common-Prayer-Book, in the Commination.

Help us ſo to employ our time in our health, proſperity and pleaſure, that we may have nothing to trouble us in the time of ſickneſs, affliction and ſorrow: But we may quietly and chearfully bear what thou layeſt upon us; *looking unto Jeſus, who for the joy that was ſet before him endured the croſs, deſpiſing the ſhame, and is ſet down at thy right hand.*

O bleſſed Lord, deny us not the conſtant aſſiſtance of the holy Ghoſt, to cheriſh, confirm and ſtrengthen our holy reſolution; to ſucceed our pious endeavours; to give us a quick ſenſe of all thy mercies, and a lively remembrance of all thy fatherly chaſtiſements; whereby we may be more and more excited to diligence, watchfulneſs, and zeal in thy ſervice.

Pre-

Preſerve us from a ſlothful and negligent ſpirit; and awaken in us ſuch a ſenſe of thee, and of our duty to thee, that we may ſearch after thy Will diligently, and believe it heartily, and practiſe it carefully, and watch againſt all temptations heedfully, and pray fervently and frequently, and ponder ſeriouſly and thoroughly all the inſtructions we have received from thee, and our many and great obligations to thee. O that it may be our choice to attend on thee; and that our hearts may be ſtill with thee, when our neceſſities require our attendance to other things! That ſo we may not be too deeply ingaged in the affairs of this life, to the prejudice of the eternal life of our ſouls: but we may go on to make it our great buſineſs to be truly godly, according to the pattern which our Lord hath left us; till we be fit to be lifted up to that high and holy place where we believe he is, and

ſee

ſee the glory which thou haſt given him.

Now to him that *holdeth our ſoul in life, and ſuffereth not our feet to be moved*; to the *God of our ſalvation, to whom belong the iſſues from death, who hath turned our heavineſs into joy, and put off our mourning, and girded us with gladneſs*; to him *that doth wondrous things, the only wiſe God our Saviour, be glory and majeſty, dominion and power, both now and ever.* Amen.

Pſal. 66. 9. 68. 20. 30. 11. Jude 25.

A Parents Prayer for a Sick Child.

O Lord, by whoſe infinite goodneſs I was brought into this world, and by whoſe indulgent care I have been continued here unto this time;

time; in the enjoyment of a great many bleſſings, of the leaſt of which I am unworthy. I thank thee that to all other comforts of this life thou haſt added the gift of this child; whom thou haſt preſerved in its birth, and ever ſince, by a marvellous providence. I am ſenſible that all I have is thine: and that I am but intruſted with this, as with all other good things, which I muſt return to thee whenſoever thou pleaſeſt.

Lord, aſſiſt me with the grace of thy holy Spirit (which I know thou art more ready to give than any other bleſſing) that I may reſign this child to thee, if thou art pleaſed now to call for it, with an humble, contented, patient and thankful mind: believing thou knoweſt what is better for me, than I do my ſelf; and wilt certainly recompence ſuch meek and quiet ſubmiſſion to thee, with as good or better enjoyments than thoſe thou takeſt away. But if thou thinkeſt good ſtill to prolong

long its days, and continue it with me; Behold, O Lord, the unfeigned purpose of my heart, faithfully to discharge my trust, and to bring it up in the fear and nurture of our Lord.

Endue me with principles of true wisdom and prudence, that I may educate it aright. Help me to give it a good example; and to use all diligence that it may *serve its generation according to thy will*, and at last be returned back to thee, wise and pure, and just, and good; fit for the company of the blessed in endless life. Unto thee, O Lord, I most heartily recommend both it and my self; whose wisdom knows where it is best to place thy creatures, whether in this or in the other world; and whose goodness designs to make us happy in both. To thee, the only wise and good God, be all Praise, Honour, Glory and Thanksgiving; with Fear and Reverence, Love and chearful Obedience, both now and eternally. *Amen.*

Here

HEre *follow Prayers and Thanksgivings on ſundry other occaſions, which we may meet withal in the courſe of our life. In which it will be fit particularly to acknowledge God, and implore his mercy towards us. And let it be remembred, as I ſaid before, that it is a part of Chriſtian Piety to take care that alms and acts of Charity to others accompany our addreſſes to God. They are then certainly moſt ſeaſonable, when we deſire ſpecial favours from him, or return thanks for them. And hereby (as old* Tobias *ſaid,* 4. 9, 11.) We lay up a good treaſure for our

ſelves

ſelves againſt the day of neceſſity. For alms is a good gift unto all them that give it, in the ſight of the moſt High.

A Prayer to be uſed by one that is going a long Journey.

O God, who art alike preſent unto all places: *who preſerveſt man and beaſt: for thou art good to all, and thy tender mercies are over all thy works. All thy works ſhall praiſe thee, O Lord, and thy Saints ſhall bleſs thee. They ſhall ſpeak of the glory of thy kingdom, and declare thy power.* Pſal. 36. 6. 145. 9, 10.

Bleſſed be thy name for the knowledge thou haſt given me, of thy wiſe and merciful providence incompaſſing all creatures. And more particularly

ticularly I rejoyce in the revelation which thou haſt made, of thy Fatherly love and care over us the children of men, in Chriſt Jeſus: *Who makes his Angels Miniſtring Spirits for them, that are heirs of Salvation.* In an hearty belief of thy holy Goſpel, and a ſincere reſolution to be obedient unto it in hope of that eternal life; I commit both my ſoul and body to thy moſt gracious protection: who *art the defender of all them, that put their truſt in thee.* I truſt thee, O Lord, with my ſelf and all belonging to me. I intirely depend on thy goodneſs, to be with me and proſper me, in the way that I go. Give thy good Angels charge of me: And eſpecially accompany me with the preſence of thy holy Spirit, to preſerve my ſoul in ſafety, from all evil thoughts, deſires or paſſions, that may any way betray me in word or deed, to offend thy Divine Majeſty. Deliver me

Heb. 1. ult.

Pſal. 18. 30.

from

from the danger of any evil company into which I may fall: that I may not frame my self to the humours of profane persons, but by a pious and discreet behaviour rather reprove them. And give me grace thankfully to embrace the company of those who are good, if I be blessed with it: that I may rejoyce in their society, and improve it to my increase in wisdom or pious affections towards thee.

Bless this habitation also, which I leave, and all remaining in it: that at what distance soever we be one from another, we may all live and walk in the same spirit of Faith, and Love, and Holiness. Give us an happy meeting together again in this place, if it be thy good will and pleasure, to pay thee the vows which I make of greater care and diligence in thy service, and greater charity towards all my neighbours. However, in the end of our pilgrimage, bring us all together in that blessed

bleſſed reſt which thou haſt prepared for thy people, after all their travels and labours, through thy mercy in Chriſt Jeſus. To which I commend my ſelf and all mine, both now and ever. *Amen.*

A ſhort Prayer in ones Inne, or at the end of the Journey.

BLeſſed be thy goodneſs, O Lord my Creator and continual Preſerver, by which I have been led in ſafety to this place; and am not only alive, but ſound and unmaimed. To thee, O God, will I ſing and give praiſe, who haſt *dealt ſo bountifully with me. For thou haſt*
Pſal. 116. 1. *delivered my ſoul from*
7. 8, 9. *death, mine eyes from*
Gen. 15. 1. *tears, and my feet from*
17. 1. *falling. I love the Lord because he hath heard my voice*

voice, and my ſupplications. Becauſe he hath inclined his ear unto me, therefore will I call upon him as long as I live. I will walk alſo with a perfect heart before the Lord; who is my ſhield, and my exceeding great reward.

Preſerve in me, I beſeech thee, a glorious remembrance of all thy mercies, and of all thoſe holy reſolutions, which they excite in me. Take me ſtill into thy Almighty protection. Continue me in thy fear, and love, and faithful obedience. That, having finiſhed this journey in peace, I may return to the place from whence I came, full of thankful affections to thee, and zealouſly diſpoſed to perform my vows, in a careful diſcharge of all the duties, which my place and relations require of me. And inable me, good Lord, ever to perform them with uprightneſs of heart and good will, as becomes the ſervant of Chriſt Jeſus.

To the ſame merciful providence which

which hath watched over me all this day, I commend my ſelf, and all my relations and friends every where, this night: Beſeeching thee to awaken in me in the morning, the ſame love, and thankfulneſs, and humble confidence, which I now find, and deſire ever to have, in my heart towards thee, my gracious Father, Saviour and Deliverer. To whom be glory, honour and praiſe everlaſting. *Amen.*

A Prayer in caſe of any hurt from Thieves, or otherwiſe.

OMoſt merciful Father, for ſo I ought ever to acknowledge thee, without whom one of the ſmalleſt creatures cannot fall to the ground, and to whom we are of more value than many of them; I humbly and meekly ſubmit

Matth. 10. 29.

mit my ſelf to this croſs in my way, which thou in thy wiſdom haſt ſuffered to befal me. I know that thou art able to make even this, with all other things, work together for my good. And therefore I beſeech thee but graciouſly to pardon my ſins which deſerve greater puniſhment, and to preſerve my ſoul ſtill in ſafety from all murmuring and repining at thy providence, by a ſtedfaſt faith and truſt in thee, and an abſolute reſignation to thy holy will and pleaſure; and I ſhall not ceaſe to bleſs thee, and to ſpeak good of thy name.

Help me to learn by this to live in a conſtant ſenſe of the uncertainty of all worldly hopes, to ſet my affections more perfectly on unchangeable enjoyments, and to place my happineſs only in chearful obedience and contented patience, in all eſtates and conditions of life. I remember that we are all but pilgrims and ſtrangers whilſt we are here; ſubject to

which hath watched over me all this day, I commend my ſelf, and all my relations and friends every where, this night: Beſeeching thee to awaken in me in the morning, the ſame love, and thankfulneſs, and humble confidence, which I now find, and deſire ever to have, in my heart towards thee, my gracious Father, Saviour and Deliverer. To whom be glory, honour and praiſe everlaſting. *Amen.*

A Prayer in caſe of any hurt from Thieves, or otherwiſe.

OMoſt merciful Father, for ſo I ought ever to acknowledge thee, without whom one of the ſmalleſt creatures cannot fall to the ground, and to whom we are of more value than many of them; I humbly and meekly ſubmit

Matth. 10. 29.

mit my ſelf to this croſs in my way, which thou in thy wiſdom haſt ſuffered to befal me. I know that thou art able to make even this, with all other things, work together for my good. And therefore I beſeech thee but graciouſly to pardon my ſins which deſerve greater puniſhment, and to preſerve my ſoul ſtill in ſafety from all murmuring and repining at thy providence, by a ſtedfaſt faith and truſt in thee, and an abſolute reſignation to thy holy will and pleaſure; and I ſhall not ceaſe to bleſs thee, and to ſpeak good of thy name.

Help me to learn by this to live in conſtant ſenſe of the uncertainty of all worldly hopes, to ſet my affections more perfectly on unchangeable enjoyments, and to place my happineſs only in chearful obedience and contented patience, in all eſtates and conditions of life. I remember that we are all but pilgrims and ſtrangers whilſt we are here; ſubject to

many other changes and chances i
this mortal life. And therefo
whatſoever I, or thoſe I have left
home, may further ſuffer before m
return, Lord, aſſiſt us all to take th
patiently alſo: And as we have r
ceived ſo many good things fro
thee, to receive likewiſe that whic
is evil; giving thanks to thee t
Father of mercies, who haſt giv
us ſuch a good hope of perfect ſec
rity, peace and joy in our heave
ly Country, when we have do
and endured all thy pleaſure.
the expectation of which bleſſ
ſtate I will continually rejoyce
praying thee to purifie me more a
more, that I may be prepared f
it, and at laſt by thy mercy ent
into it, to give thee eternal praiſ
Amen.

A Prayer to be ſaid for a Friend in a Journey.

O God, whoſe Almighty Power, and wiſe Providence, and Omnipreſent Goodneſs, is the ſecurity, ſupport, and comfort of all thoſe that know thee. It is the higheſt ſatisfaction of our ſouls to have a lively hope in thee of eternal life in the other world. And to be perſwaded that thou loveſt us, and wilt take care of us, and bleſs us whilſt we continue here, and that nothing can befal us without the knowledge and conſent of thy infinite goodneſs, gives the moſt ſolid peace and repoſe unto our ſpirits, in all the alterations and changes of this life. I rejoyce in the belief, that I live in a world, which is full of thee; that I am always under thy eye, and have thee near unto me; as to ob-

ſerve me, ſo to help, protect and defend me.

And I beſeech thee, fill the mind of him *, who is now gone from me, with the ſame ſenſe of thee; that he may carry along with him every where this ſtedfaſt faith and hope in thee, as the ſtay, the reſt and the refreſhment of his ſoul. How far ſoever he be from me, O that he may be nigh to thee, in frequent, ſerious thoughts of thee, and hearty love to thee, and perfect truſt in thee, and a conſtant diſpoſition of mind and will to do and be what thou pleaſeſt. That travelling under the ſhadow of the Almighty, no harm may come to him: but even thoſe things which we account the greateſt miſchiefs, if they ſhall betide him, may be humbly accepted by us all, with fear and reverence, and chearful ſubmiſſion to thee; as becomes thoſe who profeſs our ſelves thy friends, as well as thy ſervants.

* *Or her.*

No

No Thieves, Murderers, or other evil perſons or things, can approach him, I know, without thy leave: who governeſt and over-ruleſt the motions of every creature at thy pleaſure, to which we ever ought to ſubmit our own. But if thou thinkeſt good to reſtore him hither again untouched by any of them, Lord, help us to be ſo much the more thankful to thee; who dealeſt with us according to our own hearts deſire. O that the ſenſe of thy goodneſs then, may ſo powerfully affect our hearts; that we may be moved thereby to a greater zeal and freedom of ſpirit in thy ſervice, and be the more forward to imitate thee in doing good, and ſhowing mercy to all men! O that thy benefits may never ſlip out of our minds! O that the *meditation of them may be ſweet* unto us! and we may learn thereby *to truſt in thee at all times*, Pſal. 104 34. 62. 8.

Tob. 4. 16. *and pour out our hearts before thee: for thou art*
7. 12. *a refuge for us.*

Now the merciful God give him good ſucceſs in all things! The God which dwelleth in heaven, proſper his journey, and the Angel of God keep him company! Amen.

These last words may serve for a short Ejaculation in his behalf at any time of the day.

A Thanksgiving after a ſafe Return home.

IN an humble joyful ſenſe of thy fatherly care and providence over me, ever ſince I went from this place (to which thou haſt brought me back in peace and ſafety) I caſt down my ſelf at thy feet, O Lord God of heaven, praiſing thy Almighty goodneſs, with an heart full of love and devotion to thee. It is of thy mercy

mercy alone that I am not conſumed, and becauſe thy compaſſions fail not. That I am not groaning under ſickneſs, or wounds and bruiſes in my body; nor ſighing for the loſs of my goods either at home or abroad, is to be aſcribed to that tender mercy which ſpreads its ſelf over all thy works; and hath been a covering to me night and day, in every place where I have been, from I know not how many dangers. I thank thee alſo for letting me ſee the faces of my relations and friends again, and that no evil hath come nigh their dwellings: but eſpecially for preſerving my ſoul in integrity and uprightneſs before thee; and for delivering me from the power of temptations, and from wounding my conſcience, by any wilful offence againſt thy Divine Majeſty.

It is too little to render to thee my Praiſes and Thankſgivings; I will pay thee my Vows wherein I ſtand ingaged to thee; and here offer un-

to thee my ſelf, ſoul and body, t
be made a more pure, perfect and ac
ceptable ſacrifice unto thee throug
Chriſt Jeſus. Maintain, I beſeec
thee, ſuch a lively and laſting re
membrance of thy kindneſs in m
heart, as may both provoke me t
love and to good works, and alſ
ſtrengthen my faith and hope i
thee on all occaſions for the time t
come.

I ought not to forget, now that
mention thy late deliverances, a
the reſt of thy mercies: which ar
ſo many and ſo various, that, alas
we take little notice of many o
them. In the conſtant and undi
ſturbed courſe of them, we are ap
to be leſs ſenſible how much w
ſtand indebted to thee for them
Yea, they have been ſo long conti
nued to us, and we are ſo far fro
the beginning of them, that we are
too prone to forget the head an
fountain from whence they ſpring
O how ſad is it, that we ſhould lov
thee

thee leſs, becauſe thou loveſt us ſo much! and that we ſhould think the ſeldomer of thy bounty, becauſe thou conſtantly remembereſt us and doſt us good! How much ſhould we praiſe thee for our health and eaſe, if we were ſick or in pain but a few days! And yet now we praiſe thee but a little, though we are well many years. How thankful ſhould we be, if we were freed from the Devil, after he had affrighted and vexed us but one night! and yet now, alas! we ſcarce mind thy goodneſs, which perpetually preſerves us from his aſſaults. Endue me, O God of all grace, with a more ſerious ſpirit, often reflecting and meditating upon thee, and upon thy benefits, both to my ſoul and body, for this life and that which is to come. That I may not be taught the value and number of thy bleſſings, by being deprived of them; but in their conſtant uſe and enjoyment may ever duly ponder them: extolling and

praiſing thy infinite goodneſs, with ſenſible love to thee, and delight in doing of thy Will. For which end I beſeech thee to indue me with power from above, that I may not deceive my own ſoul with ſome paſſionate deſires, tranſports of joy, or ſudden reſolutions: but deliberately and with the full conſent of my heart devoting my ſelf to thy ſervice, I may conſcientiouſly ſtudy to improve all thy mercies to the honour and glory of thy Name, the credit of my Religion, the good and profit of my Neighbours, and my own ſolid peace and comfort at preſent, and eternal joy at the day of the Lord.

And bleſs all others, I beſeech thee, that deſire the ſame mercy, or which thou haſt made me partaker. Receive them into thy protection, conduct them ſafely to the end of their journies: Make them ever mindful of thy loving kindneſs, and careful to remember that every

new

new benefit is a new bond to better obedience. Unto which, good Lord, incline us all more and more, for thy mercies ſake in Chriſt Jeſus; by whom and for whom thy glorious Name be bleſſed and praiſed for ever. *Amen.*

A Prayer to be ſaid by one going a Voyage on the Sea:

Which may be uſed, with a little alteration, by his Friends for him.

O Moſt mighty Lord, *the God of our ſalvation; who art the confidence of all the ends of the earth, and of them that are afar off upon the Sea*: Under whoſe powerful protection we are alike ſecure in every place; and without whoſe providence over us, we can no where be in ſafety. I am ſenſible of the tender care thou haſt long taken of me, and that I have been Pſal. 65. 5.

been preſerved by thee from innume-
rable dangers, both in my infancy and
childhood and ever ſince; for which
I have not thankt thee as I ought. I
moſt humbly beſeech thee graciouſly
to pardon this and all other my of-
fences, which might juſtly weaken
my confidence in thee; did I not feel
thy grace in Chriſt Jeſus, who dyed
for us, to be ſo great, as to fill my
heart not only with unfeigned ſor-
row for them, but with holy reſolu-
tions to be more grateful and dutiful
in time to come.

This emboldens me, with an hum-
ble faith in thy Almighty goodneſs,
to commend my ſelf ſtill to the con-
duct, guidance and bleſſing of thy
merciful Providence. O God re-
ceive me, though a ſinful creature,
into thy favour and grace. Purge my
heart from all affection to every
thing that is evil; that I may not
carry the ſenſe of any guilt unrepent-
ed of, along with me in my voyage;
but have my heart ſetled in ſuch
an

an unmoveable love to all piety, righteouſneſs and ſobriety of mind and life, that no ſtorm or tempeſt or other danger may diſmay me and make me afraid. They are all, I know, in thy hands; to which I commit my ſelf with an intire truſt in thee, that nothing ſhall hurt me while I follow that which is good.

If thou art pleaſed to bring me to my deſired haven, Lord, poſſeſs me then with theſe good thoughts and affections which I feel at preſent in my heart towards thee: That my chief joy may be in thee, and in the love I find in my heart to thee; and I may never forget thee by intemperate mirth and pleaſure in any other enjoyment. But if thou thinkeſt good otherwiſe to diſpoſe of me, thy will, O Lord, be done. I commend both my body and my ſpirit into thy hands; who art able to make the Sea give up her dead, by thine

thine Almighty Word. Help me always to hold faſt that hope of eternal life *as an anchor of my ſoul both ſure and ſtedfaſt*; which may preſerve me in unſhaken comfort and joy at the hour of death it ſelf. And looking up to that quiet place whither *Jeſus our fore-runner is entred for us*, I may begin thoſe Praiſes and Thankſgivings which I hope ſhall have no end; but be continued for ever in the company of the bleſſed in the other world. Unto which I beſeech thee of thine infinite mercies to bring me, through Chriſt Jeſus; who *is made an high prieſt for ever*. Amen.

Heb. 6. 19, 20.

A

A Thanksgiving after it is finiſhed, and the party returned home again.

O Bleſſed Lord; *Thou art great and greatly to be praiſed*; for by *thy word the heavens were made: and all the hoſt of them by the breath of thy mouth. Thou didſt gather the waters of the Sea together, as an heap: and laidſt them up in the ſtore-houſes of the deeps.* Pſal. 48. 1. 33. 6, 7. 135. 6. 107. 24, &c. They are all at thy command, and *whatſoever thou pleaſeſt, that doſt thou in heaven and in earth, in the Seas and all deep places. I have ſeen thy works, O Lord, and thy wonders in the deep. For thou ſpakeſt the word, and the ſtormy wind aroſe, which lifted up the waves thereof.* And again, *when we cryed unto thee, thou madeſt the ſtorm a calm, ſo that the waves thereof*

were

were ſtill. Bleſſed be thy Almighty Goodneſs, which carried me ſafe through ſuch great and dreadful dangers. Bleſſed be thy goodneſs that the deep hath not ſwallowed me up, and that I am not gone down into ſilence. Bleſſed be thy goodneſs, that neither my body, nor my goods, became a prey to unreaſonable men; but that thou broughteſt me to the haven where I would be, and haſt now returned me home in ſafety.

O God, that I may never forget the vows, which I was forward to make when I was in trouble! Preſerve in me for ever an awful ſenſe and apprehenſion of thy great power, who *bringeſt the wind out*
Pſal. 135. 7. *of thy treaſuries; and*
89. 9. *ruleſt the raging of the*
Jer. 5. 22. *Sea, and ſtilleſt the noiſe*
Pſal. 120. 11. *of its waves. Who would not fear thee, O Lord, who would not tremble at thy preſence? who haſt placed the ſand for the bound of the*

Sea,

ſea, by a perpetual decree that it cannot paſs it; and though the waves thereof toſs themſelves, yet can they not prevail; though they roar, yet can they not paſs over it? O poſſeſs my heart with a greater reverence of thy divine Majeſty, that I may ever *ſerve thee with fear, and rejoyce before thee with trembling.* Eſpecially make me fearful of offending thee, who art ſo great and powerful; and haſt done ſuch great things for me; and canſt do greater; and wilt do them, as thou haſt promiſed, by Chriſt Jeſus; who hath *power to ſubdue all things to himſelf.* Philip. 3. 20. Heb. 2. 3.

Bleſſed be thy infinite grace, which hath wrought ſuch a marvellous redemption for us by him. *How ſhall I eſcape, if I neglect ſo great ſalvation?* How miſerable ſhall I be, if, after all the dangers from which I have now been reſcued, I ſhould for my ingratitude and diſobedience be *caſt into the lake of fire and brim-*

brimstone? O God, that all thy mercies and deliverances here may, by a thankful remembrance and careful improvement of them, only prepare me for that glorious deliverance at the day of the Lord Jesus! And as by thy good providence thou hast saved me from the violence of storms and tempests, and other hazards: so by thy grace deliver me from the power and violence of all temptations; and enable me stedfastly to persist in well doing, and patient suffering unto the end.

Endue me with such a right sense of my Religion as may make it to be my delight; that so I may be out of all danger of being prevailed withal, to forsake that which is so sweet and pleasant to my soul. O that it may be my guide in prosperity, and my comfort in adversity; the rule of my life, and my great satisfaction in death! Sanctifie every condition unto me; that sickness or health, poverty or riches, honour

or

or diſgrace, may prove real bleſſings to me, and make me profit in piety and vertue. And let a great ſenſe of thee, and of Religion intermix it ſelf with all my employments. Teach me ſo to behave my ſelf that I may be acceptable in thy ſight, not only when I make ſuch addreſſes as theſe unto thee: But whether I eat or drink, or whatſoever I do elſe, I may abide in thy love, and be approved by thee for a good and faithful ſervant. All which I moſt humbly beg of thee, and whatſoever thou ſeeſt good for me, in the name of the Lord Jeſus; by whom and with whom, in the unity of the holy Ghoſt, all honour and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. *Amen.*

A Prayer to be uſed by a woman with Child.

O God, the Author of our being, the Fountain of life and all other good; who haſt begun an excellent work in me, which no eye but thine ſees, and no hand but thy Almighty power can finiſh. I adore thy great and glorious Majeſty in this and in all other thy works of wonder. *Thou doſt great things without number:* but art more particularly to be acknowledged in the formation of mankind, who *are fearfully and wonderfully made*, after thy own image and likeneſs.

Be pleaſed, O Lord, in thy infinite goodneſs to perfect and compleat that which thou haſt begun. Preſerve the ſmalleſt degree of life, which thou haſt inſpired. Beſtow up-

upon it intireneſs of all its parts: and prepare a convenient habitation for an underſtanding ſpirit, capable of the beſt wiſdom, and inclinable to vertue and goodneſs. Prevent, good Lord, the miſcarriage of my hopes; and ripen them to a good iſſue. And the nearer they come to their full growth; ſtrengthen the more my humble truſt in thee, and ſubmiſſion to thee, and hearty deſires to encreaſe the number of thy faithful people, together with my own Family.

That ought to be the chiefeſt deſire of my ſoul, to be formed my ſelf in all things, according to the mind and will of thee, my God; that ſo I may be an inſtrument of doing good to others. O thou who haſt wrought many holy purpoſes and reſolutions in my heart, preſerve and confirm them, that they may not prove abortive; but bring forth continually the fruit of good living. Perfect me in Knowledge, in Faith, in Love,

and

and in Obedience. Enable me ſo diſcreetly and carefully to diſcharge the duties of all the Relations wherein I at preſent, or ſhall hereafter, ſtand; that I may be a comfort to them, and a credit to Religion. And howſoever thou diſpoſeſt of me or them, Lord, make me well contented, and in every condition to give thanks unto thee, and rejoyce in thy holy Name, and in the hope of eternal life through Chriſt Jeſus my moſt bleſſed Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

A Prayer when the time of her Travel *draweth near.*

O God, the helper and deliverer of all thoſe that truſt in thee; by whoſe power I was formed in my Mothers Womb, by whoſe care I was brought from thence, and by whoſe merciful kindneſs I have

been preſerved in many dangers ſince. I praiſe and magnifie thy great and glorious Name; and am encouraged by the remembrance of thy mercies, which have been ever of old, to implore thy compaſſionate help in the approaching time of my need; pain and danger.

Thou art preſent to all thy creatures, and heareſt the cryes of the beaſts of the earth, which all wait upon thee. O be not far from me, when trouble is near: but hearken unto me, and ſave me, when I call upon thee! Shorten my pains, or lengthen my patience; which thou pleaſeſt. Bear up my ſpirit in ſubmiſſion to thy will, and in ſome humble hope that I *ſhall forget my anguiſh for joy that a man is born into the world. Forſake not the work of thy own hand:* but in due time perfect it, and bring forth that which thou haſt wrought in ſecret, into the light; that we

Joh. 16. 21. Pſal. 138. 8. 22. 4, 5.

may

may all ſee the wonders of thy wiſdom, and praiſe thy goodneſs and thy power.

My parents truſted in thee; they truſted, and thou didſt deliver them. They cryed unto thee, and were delivered: they cryed unto thee, and were not confounded. In thee likewiſe do I humbly put my truſt and confidence: which nothing diſheartens, but my own great unworthineſs; by reaſon of my forgetfulneſs of thy benefits, and unthankful returns for former mercies beſtowed upon me. But thou haſt taken care that this ſhould not diſcourage me neither, by proclaiming a gracious pardon, by him that was born of woman and dyed for us, unto contrite and reforming ſinners. Accept, I beſeech thee, of my ſincere reſolutions to preſerve hereafter a more affectionate remembrance of thy love to me, and to dedicate my ſelf and all I have to thy ſervice, *in faith, and charity, and holineſs, with ſobriety.*

1 Tim. 2. 15.

briety. Or if thou art pleaſed o-herwiſe to diſpoſe of me, I reſign ny ſelf heartily unto thee. Lord, eceive me to a better life, where all ghing and ſorrow ſhall be done a-ay, and eternal joy intirely poſ-ſs our hearts. *Amen*, for Chriſt Je-us his ſake. *Amen.*

Prayer to the ſame purpoſe to be ſaid by her Relations.

O Moſt mighty Lord; who haſt already given us innumerable edges of thy love, and many ar-uments to truſt in thee for ever, nd to expect with quiet and patient inds the iſſue of thy wiſe and good rovidence. Thou haſt reſpect to all e works of thy hands; eſpecially the ſons of men, and to thoſe a-ove the reſt, who ſeek thy favour, d give thee the glory of all thy ercies, and are reſolved to devote emſelves, and their children and

all they have, to do thee honour in the world. We moſt humbly commend thy ſervant, drawing near the time of her Travel, to thy care and bleſſing: beſeeching thee to give her a gracious deliverance, and to eaſe her of the burden, wherewith ſhe labours.

We our ſelves are monuments of that mercy, which we beg of thee. Thou broughteſt us into this world, and didſt unlooſe the bands where with we were ſwadled in our mothers womb. We have had long experience alſo of thy readineſs to ſuccour us, and to do us good ever ſince; many times beyond our deſires and hopes, and always beyond our deſervings. We dare not but commit our ſelves and every thing belonging unto us, moſt heartily into thy hands: remembring that thou haſt the ſame power and goodneſs ſtill, by which we came into the light of the living; and that thou ſtill exerciſeſt them, as thy wiſdom thinks

thinks moſt meet. We cannot deſire to be better provided for, than as thy infinite underſtanding and counſel judges moſt convenient for us. Unto that we refer our ſelves: beſeeching thee, if it be thy good pleaſure, that her deliverance may be as ſpeedy as her cryes unto thee, or her patience as great and long as her pains. Thou who ripeneſt the fruits of the earth, and then giveſt us to gather them to our comfort; blaſt not our humble hopes of the fruit of the womb: But after thou haſt brought it to maturity, deliver it into our hands, as a new pledge of thy goodneſs to us; for which we will ever thankfully acknowledge and praiſe thy Name.

Or if thou haſt otherwiſe determined; Lord, give us grace to ſubmit to thy holy will, and to reſt ſatisfied in thy wiſe appointments, and never to diſtruſt thy goodneſs and care over us. Yea, help us ſtill to bleſs thee, and to ſpeak good of thy

Name, ſaying; *The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; bleſſed be the name of the Lord, from henceforth and for ever.* Amen.

A Thanksgiving to be uſed by thoſe preſent after her ſafe Deliverance.

WE thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for thy long continued goodneſs to us thy creatures, who are unworthy of the leaſt of thy favours. *In thee we live and move, and have our being.* And it is only of thy mercy, that we have not lived in perpetual pain and torment, ſpending our days in ſighs and lamentations: but have enjoyed much health and eaſe, and had innumerable occaſions to praiſe thee, and to rejoyce in thee; *who loadeſt us daily with thy benefits.* Bleſſed be thy Name, O Lord, *who forgiveſt*

all

all our iniquities, and healeſt all our diſeaſes. Who redeemeſt our life from deſtruction, and crowneſt us with loving kindneſs, and tender mercies. More particularly we thank thee, that thou haſt heard the humble ſupplications of this thy ſervant; to whom thou haſt now granted a gracious deliverance, and turned her ſorrow and heavineſs, into joy and gladneſs. We thank thee, that thou haſt ſent her ſeaſonable helpers, and bleſſed their endeavours for the preſervation of her, and of the fruit of her womb. And that thou likewiſe vouchſafeſt her all needful things, for her refreſhment in this weak condition wherein ſhe lies; waiting upon thee for the perfecting of thy mercies towards her.

Accept, we beſeech thee, of our hearty acknowledgements, of thy powerful and good providence over her, and over any perſon here preſent, in the like neceſſity; which we now thankfully call to mind, and

desire may never be forgotten. O that a lively remembrance of this, and all other thy mercies, may so mightily affect our hearts; that we may be moved thereby to fear thee all our days, and to love thee, and to put our trust in thee, and with quiet and resigned minds to cast all our burdens and cares on thee, in a constant and chearful obedience to all thy holy commands!

And since thou hast begun to be so gracious to this thy hand-maid, grant unto her and her relations further favour; *and finish their life in health, with joy and mercy.* Renew her strength daily: and as that increaseth; so make her thankfulness and pious affections towards thee, and serious resolutions to obey thee faithfully, grow up together therewith. Refresh her spirit, while she lyeth on this bed of weakness, with many heavenly thoughts and delightful meditations of all thy mercies towards

Tob. 8. 16.

wards her and towards mankind: especially with a sense of thy wonderful love in Christ Jesus; who was pleased to be born of a woman, and to become like one of us; that we might be assured of thy care over us in every condition, and be made thy children, and at last be heirs of everlasting life. And when she hath recovered her former strength, make her to feel this love still more powerful in her heart; exciting her to serve thee carefully in all righteousness, sobriety, modesty, devotion and readiness to assist others, especially the poor and needy, in the same distress wherein she hath been her self.

We commend likewise this little one, which thou hast blessed her withal, unto thy tender care and fatherly love: beseeching thee, that it may live to be dedicated unto thee, and to be instructed in the knowledge of thee, and to praise thee, as we now do, for bringing it into the

world; and for making it partaker likewise of thy grace in Christ Jesus. Or if it shall seem good to thee, to let either of them fall into any further danger, enable her to endure it with patient submission to thee; trusting, even in death it self, in thy good providence, and in thy precious promises, who never failest those that faithfully seek thee.

Hear us, O Father of mercies, and pardon our offences; pitty our infirmities; make us more thankful for what we have received; and more fit for thy future mercies, either in this life, or in the next, through thy infinite love declared to us in Christ Jesus; in whose holy words we conclude our prayers, saying, as he hath taught us.

Our Father, &c.

A Thankſgiving to be uſed by the perſon her ſelf, when ſhe is able.

UNto thee, O God, do I give thanks, unto thee do I give thanks: for that thou art near, thy wondrous works declare. In my diſtreſs I called upon thee and my cry came unto thee. I ſought thee, O Lord, and thou heardeſt me, and deliveredſt me from all my fears. In the day when I cryed, thou anſweredſt me, and ſtrengthenedſt me with ſtrength in my ſoul. Thou haſt brought up my ſoul from the grave: thou haſt kept me alive, that I ſhould not go down to the pit. Bleſſed be God, which hath not turned away my prayer, nor his mercy from me. Bleſſed be God who hath preſerved the

Pſal. 75. 1.
18. 6.
34. 4.
138. 3.
99. 8.
66. 20.
56. 12.
104. 33, 34.

fruit of my womb, and made me the joyful mother of a child. *Thy vows are upon me, O God, I will render praise unto thee. I will sing unto the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises unto my God, while I have my being. My meditation of him shall be sweet, I will be glad in the Lord.*

Accept, O most merciful Father, of these thankful acknowledgements; *which go not forth out of fained lips.* And be pleased graciously to preserve such a lasting and fresh remembrance of thy great mercies in my heart; that I may always be joyful in thee, and speak good of thy name, and trust in thee at all times; and still *cry unto thee, O God most high, who performest all things for me.* Make me studious likewise and forward to bring forth all the fruits of righteousness, throughout the whole course of my life; which may witness the truth and sincerity of my thankfulness to thee. O that I may never be less

Psal. 17. 2. 57. 2.

earnest

earneſt and fervent in the return of obedience, than I have been in deſires and prayers to receive thy bleſſings! Diſpoſe me to have a kind and tender care of this infant, which thou haſt committed to my charge. Make me willing to undergo, to the utmoſt of my power, the pains that accompany its education. Let not the love of eaſe and pleaſure breed in me an averſneſs to any duty, to which both Nature and Religion incline me: or give me grace, by ſober thoughts, and a thankful remembrance of the late pain from which thou haſt delivered me, to overcome it. Eſpecially indue me with the greateſt love, to its precious and immortal ſoul. And help me ſo to grow and encreaſe in Chriſtian wiſdom and goodneſs, that I may be able to inſtruct it, when it is capable, in the fear of our Lord; and by meek and gentle admonitions, together with a good example in all things, to win it to the love of true godli-

godliness. Or if thou art pleased to take it from me, who deserve not the least of thy mercies; Lord, so moderate my affections, and bring them in subjection to thee, that I may not undutifully repine at thy providence: but in an humble adoration of thy unsearchable wisdom, and a stedfast confidence of thy good will towards me, resign it unto thee from whom I received it.

And I also beseech thy Divine goodness, when thou shalt restore me to the publick assemblies of thy people again, to give me grace to receive that mercy with exceeding joy. Prepare my heart, with enlarged affection to offer unto thee not only the sacrifice of praise, giving thanks unto thy name; but all other oblations which ought to accompany such addresses to thy glorious Majesty. That they may be but an earnest of my future diligence and zeal in thy Divine Service, and of my readiness to do good, and communicate

municate unto others: whereby I may *lay up in ſtore for my ſelf a good foundation againſt the time to come, that I may lay hold on eternal life,* through Chriſt Jeſus. *Amen.* 1 Tim. 6. 19.

A Prayer for good ſucceſs in ſome extraordinary buſineſs.

ALmighty and moſt merciful father, the ſupreme Governour of the whole world: who diſpoſeſt and ordereſt all things in heaven and earth with admirable judgement; and canſt not poſſibly err in what thou doeſt, nor fail of what thou deſigneſt. I adore, in the humbleſt reverence of my ſoul, thy moſt glorious Majeſty; thy eternal Power, Holineſs, Goodneſs and Truth, which are all beyond my comprehenſion. And more particularly I adore thy unſpotted

unſpotted Juſtice, and all-ſeeing Wiſdom, which penetrates into the deepeſt ſecrets, and ſpies out all the ways of the ſons of men, and renders to every one of them according to their doings.

Jer. 10.23. Prov. 16.9. 19. 21. Tob. 4.19. *I know, O Lord, that the way of man is not in himſelf: it is not in man that walketh to direct his ſteps.* The ſucceſs of all our counſels and actions depends on thy pleaſure; and when we have *deviſed the way* we intend to go, thou giveſt it what iſſue ſeems good in thine eyes. *There are many devices in a mans heart; nevertheleſs thy counſel, O Lord, that ſhall ſtand.* I will therefore *bleſs thee, O Lord my God, alway, and deſire of thee that my ways may be directed, and that all my paths and counſels may proſper: for thou thy ſelf giveſt all good things, and thou humbleſt whom thou wilt, and as thou wilt.*

Accordingly I now moſt earneſtly re-

recommend my ſelf, and all my concerns to thee; who haſt bid me *in all my wayes acknowledge thee, and thou wilt direct my paths.* Prov. 3. 5, 6. *I truſt* in thy wiſe and good providence *with all my heart, and lean not unto mine own underſtanding.* I hope in thy mercy that thou wilt ſo direct, aſſiſt and proſper all my thoughts, deſigns and endeavours, that they may attain their deſired end. And above all things I deſire that I may have grace, to deſign and ſeek for nothing, but what is juſt and honeſt, pious and charitable, praiſe worthy and of good report. Bleſs me, good Lord, with that integrity of heart, in which thou ſo much delighteſt: and then bleſs me with wiſdom and good underſtanding in all my affairs, that *I may guide them with diſcretion.* Wiſd. 7. 15, 16. For *it is thou that leadeſt into wiſdom,* 9. 10. *and directeſt the wiſe.* Ecclus. 23. 1, 5 *In thy hand are both we and*

our words: all wiſdom alſo and knowledge of workmanſhip. Leave me not therefore; *O Lord, Father and Governour of all my whole life,* leave me not to my ſelf alone: but *ſend out thy wiſdom from the throne of thy glory, that being preſent, ſhe may labour with me. And turn away from me vain hopes.* Indue me alſo with a patient, contented, and untroubled ſpirit, that I may wait on thee as long as thou pleaſeſt: And whatſoever the event ſhall be, enable me to rejoyce in thee as my portion, and to reſt perfectly ſatisfied in thy love, and in the aſſured hope of good things in the other world.

I humbly recommend likewiſe to thy merciful guidance, all thoſe with whom I have intruſted any of my concerns; that they may manage all their undertakings with skill and prudence, juſtice and fidelity; and do for me, as they would that I or others ſhould do for them. Make us all ever mindful, that *all*

our

our works are as the Sun before thee, and thy eyes are continually upon our ways; that we may never dare to do any thing but what thou approveſt, and of which we may give a comfortable account, at the great day of judgement. Eccluſ. 17. 19. Epheſ. 3. 20. Rom. 16. 25, 27.

Now unto him that is of power to do for me exceeding abundantly above all that I ask or think, to God only wiſe, be glory through Jeſus Chriſt for ever. Amen.

A Prayer when one intends to live Unmarried.

O Lord, the lover of ſouls; for whom they were made, and in whom alone they can be happy. *There is none I have in heaven but thee, nor on* Pſal. 73. 25.

earth

earth that I desire besides thee. Who art the perfection of wisdom, power and goodness; and the fountain of all the good that is in us. Thou art able to raise us, to what degree of wisdom, strength and goodness thou pleasest: and hast promised us thine assistance to make us like unto thee; and assured us we shall be immortally blessed, by a glorious participation of thee. Thou draweſt us so mightily, that we have no power to resist thee; when our minds turn themselves towards thee, and reflect upon thy most excellent Nature, which discovers it self, in all thy bounty to us, and the rest of thy creatures. We cannot but love thee, when we think of thee; and when we love thee, we cannot but again think of thee, that we may have the pleasure still of loving thee more. O fix my mind, I beseech thee, in a more stedfast contemplation of thee, and of all thy gracious communications to me, that I may

spend

ſpend my days delightfully in a perpetual meditation of thy mercies, which I have received in ſuch abundance from thee!

There is nothing I know more natural and more eaſie, than to think of the kindneſſes of thoſe that love us; eſpecially theirs to whom we bear a mutual love. O how great, how free and undeſerved is thy love to us! What infinite reaſon is there that we ſhould love thee, with all our heart, and with all our ſoul, and with all our ſtrength? Inſpire me, O God, with ſuch a lively ſenſe of thy goodneſs in my creation and ever ſince, both to my ſoul and to my body, that I may ever preſerve a ſweet and grateful remembrance of it; and may feel it provoking me daily to commemorate thy loving kindneſs, with the moſt ardent love of thee, my moſt bountiful benefactor. O that I could love thee, in every thing that I ſee and enjoy! being led by it to the thoughs of thy admirable wiſdom,

dom, which aſtoniſhes us in the leaſt of thy creatures; and of thy matchleſs goodneſs, which hath provided ſuch variety of pleaſures for all our ſenſes.

Poſſeſs me with a great and ſtrong admiration of the excellency of wiſdom; that I may *be a lover of her beauty, and ſeek her out from my youth; deſiring to marry her to my ſelf. For thou the Lord of all things thy ſelf loveſt her: And therefore I purpoſe to take her to live with me; knowing that ſhe will be a counſeller of good things, and a comfort in cares and grief.* But eſpecially over-power my heart with a ſtrong and laſting ſenſe of thy exceeding abundant kindneſs in Chriſt Jeſus; *in whom thou haſt choſen me, that I ſhould be holy and without blame before thee in love.* Let me never think of that, but with ſuch great tranſports of love and joy, and thankfulneſs unto thee as may make me then forget all other

Wiſd. 8.2,3,9.

Epheſ. 1.4,8.

ther things. And make me to under-ſtand more and more how thy love in him *hath abounded towards us in all wiſdom and prudence.* That ſo I may be the more moved to admire it, and delight to meditate upon it, and be ſtill ſearching into thoſe treaſures of thy Wiſdom, and unſearchable riches of thy Grace; till I come *to be filled with all the fulneſs of thee*, my God. Ephes. 3. 19.

Tranſlate all my affections from theſe lower objects, to him that is *fairer than the children of men*: who loved me ſo much as to dye for me; who is riſen again, and ſits at thy right-hand in incomparable Majeſty and Glory. Raiſe up my thoughts as high as that heavenly place where he is, and where I hope one day to be; *equal to the Angels, who neither marry, nor are given in marriage.* Pſal. 45. 2. Luk. 20. 36. Help me to begin that happy ſtate in ſeparating my ſelf frequently from all this world, and joyning

joyning with that bleſſed company above, in praiſing thee, and giving thanks unto thee, whoſe mercies are great and endure for ever. And when I am about any other imployment; help me chearfully to attend it; and with a willing mind to perform the duties belonging to it. Poſſeſs me with ſuch an hatred of idleneſs and ſloth, that I may always be buſied about ſome good or innocent thing. Eſpecially diſpoſe me to exerciſe my ſelf in works of mercy and charity; and to take all opportunites of doing good, to the bodies or ſouls of my Neighbours.

Indue me with prudence and diſcretion in the choice of my company and friends: and give me wiſdom to improve their ſociety to the beſt purpoſes. Make my mind more heavenly: and when any thoughts contrary to my inclinations and reſolutions ariſe in me, turn them immediately to thy ſelf, and my bleſſed Saviour. Open my eyes to behold

the things that are not ſeen: And put out the ſplendor of all thoſe things that dazzle our eyes here, by the appearance of a brighter and more glorious good. Which may raiſe my deſigns higher than this world; and make all my paſſions and affections more equal and moderate; my diſcourſe more profitable; my behaviour more humble, modeſt, and ſuch as becometh Saints; and all my actions more conformable to thy will, and more exemplary to thoſe whom I converſe withal. *The very God of peace ſanctifie me wholly; and preſerve my whole ſpirit, and ſoul, and body blameleſs unto the coming of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt!* 1 Theſſ. 5. 23.

O that my love to any thing here may not turn into wantonneſs and folly; nor my joy and chearfulneſs, into lightneſs and vanity; nor my ſeriouſneſs or ſorrow, into melancholy and diſcontent; nor my juſt anger, into hatred and contention; nor induſtry in my buſineſs into careful-

neſs

neſs, diſtruſt and earthlineſs of mind; nor my diſcretion and prudence, into craft, diſſembling and deceit! Diſpoſe my heart that I may ſo mind heavenly things, as to be very humble and lowly in my own eyes; and be ſo humble and ſenſible of my own unworthineſs and weakneſs, as to make my addreſſes to thee continually, with the greater earneſtneſs, for thy merciful help and ſupply. Teach me ſo to pray and call upon thee, as to labour and ſtrive my ſelf; and ſo to labour and run, that I may obtain. Let faith in thy good providence and precious promiſes be my comfort; and hope of thy glory make me rejoyce; and a great love to thee make me unwearied, and fill me with the conſolations of the holy Ghoſt. O that my Religion may become my Nature; ſo that it may not be my burden or trouble: and help me ſo to look upon it as my duty, as withal to account it my honour, priviledge and happineſs.

O

O that I may never desire any thing but to be so pure as thou wouldst have me; and to enjoy those rewards of holiness, which thou canst and wilt bestow upon me. This is the summe of my desires; that whatsoever I do may please thee, and whatsoever thou dost may be pleasing to me. Lord, hear me and answer me graciously. And if I shall see any cause hereafter to change my condition, preserve in me an unchangeable love to thee above all things. That still I may please thee, and be acceptable in thy sight: delighting my self in wisdom, and *reposing my self with her*; for her *conversation hath no bitterness, and to live with her hath no sorrow, but mirth and joy.* In which happiness, the Lord vouchsafe to keep me, whatever my condition be, for Jesus his sake. To whom with thee, O Father, and thy blessed Spirit, be everlasting praises. *Amen.* Wisd. 8. 16.

A Prayer when there are any thoughts of changing that condition, and deliberations about Marriage.

O Lord, my moſt gracious and merciful Father; of whoſe tender care and good providence I have had ſo long and abundant experience, that I ſhould be extreamly ungrateful if I ſhould not acknowledge thee, and love thee, and truſt in thee, and upon all occaſions call upon thee, and ſeek thy favour for ever. There hath no day paſſed ſince I came into the world, but it hath brought along with it many tokens of thy love, which thou art ſtill renewing in every moment of my life. By thee I have been carried through all the dangers of infancy and child-hood unto this age of underſtanding and reaſon. And thou haſt bleſſed me many ways ſince that time; eſpecially with ſome remembrance and

ſenſe

ſenſe of thy ſelf, from whom I came and on whom I depend; which I account the greateſt benefit of all. Bleſſed be thy goodneſs that I am not a perfect ſtranger to thee: but that thou haſt made me to know ſomething of thee, and of thy infinite goodneſs; who alone art able to make me happy, both here and eternally.

I hope in thee, O my God, that thou wilt never forſake me: but be my guide even unto death. Pardon, I beſeech thee, all the ſins and negligences, of which I have been at any time guilty: and let them not hinder the continuance of thy mercy and favour towards me, on which all the comfort of my life depends. Leave me not to my ſelf and the weakneſs of my own counſels; eſpecially now, in the greateſt turn and change of my life: but vouchſafe to direct my thoughts, and all the motions of my heart aright, to that which will be moſt profitable for me, and conduce

every way to my future comfort and ſatisfaction. Lead me in the way wherein I ſhall go; and guide me for thy names ſake. Indue me with ſuch a ſerious, conſiderate and diſcerning ſpirit, that I may not follow the inticements of any fading and periſhing good: but cleave to that wich is unchangeable and never dies. *Favour* thou haſt taught me, *is deceitful, and beauty is vain:* Prov. 31. 30. *but one that feareth the Lord ſhall be praiſed.* O poſſeſs my heart with an holy fear of thee; that nothing may appear ſo amaible in mine eyes, as true Religion, Piety and Vertue! Make me in love with the beauties of Wiſdom, (*for thou loveſt none, but him that dwelleth with wiſdom, to be allied unto* Wiſd. 7. 28. 8. 17, 18. *which is immortality; and great pleaſure, I know, it is, to have her friendſhip*) and with the beauties of ſobriety, meekneſs, merciſulneſs, humility, and all thoſe things which are the image of

of thy goodneſs. That being inclined by theſe in my choice, I may find a fit perſon to be the guide of my youth [*or an help meet for me*] the delight of mine eyes; in whoſe ſociety I may enjoy a conſtant relief, eaſe and pleaſure, and be ſet forward thereby in the way to heaven.

Aſſiſt me, I beſeech thee, in all my deliberations about this change; that I may ſoberly weigh every thing which is offered to my thoughts. And after all the dangers which, by thy goodneſs, I have eſcaped, I may not be ſo unhappy now, as to fall into the ſaddeſt of all; by the ſtrength of fancy, by raſhneſs and unadviſedneſs of mind, or the violence and unruline ſs of any paſſion: but may diſpoſe of my affections to a perſon worthy of them. Help me, bleſſed Lord, to make ſo wiſe a choice, that I may never repent of it afterward. Direct and govern likewiſe the minds and hearts of all thoſe [*Parents or Friends*

Friends] that tranſact any thing on my behalf. That they may have a reſpect chiefly to thoſe things which endure for ever: and ſettle me there, where I may moſt glorifie thee, and do moſt good, and increaſe in wiſdom and vertue, and live in peace, chearfulneſs and contentment to the end of my days. Which mercies, and all others, that thou ſeeſt requiſite for me, I moſt humbly beg of thee, for Jeſus Chriſt his ſake, the Lord of peace; to whom, with thy ſelf, and good Spirit, I deſire to give, as is moſt due, eternal praiſes. *Amen.*

A Prayer when a perſon is about to enter into the ſtate of Marriage; [*and may ſerve for any other new condition of life.*]

O Lord, the Guide and Director, the helper and comforter of all

all thoſe that ſeek thee, and depend upon thee with their whole heart. In a ſerious ſenſe that nothing can make me happy without thy love, favour and bleſſing, I humbly caſt down my ſelf before thy divine Majeſty; imploring thy gracious preſence with me, to inſtruct; govern and aſſiſt me in that condition, into which, under the conduct and protection of thy good providence, I am about to enter. Great and many have been thy mercies towards me hitherto, ever ſince I was taken by thee out of my mothers womb. Thou haſt nouriſhed and clothed me: thou haſt brought me up to ſome knowledge of thee and of the duty I owe thee: thou haſt ſhown me the path of life, and prevented me early with thy Grace, to diſpoſe my heart to walk in it. And, though I have not made, I moſt ſorrowfully confeſs, ſuch returns unto thee as I ought to have done yet, it is ſome comfort to me, to feel my heart inclined and

reſolved to be more thankful and and dutiful hereafter; and to paſs the remaining part of my ſojourning here in thy fear and love, and ſtedfaſt obedience.

Pardon me therefore, O moſt merciful Father, according to thy promiſes made in Chriſt Jeſus, to penitent ſinners. And vouchſafe me the grace of thy holy Spirit, to lead me to a clear and full underſtanding of all the duties that belong to the ſtate and relations in which I have now choſen to ſerve thee. Indue me with a ſincere and hearty affection to them; and inable me carefully to perform them with a willing mind, and a chearful unwearied ſpirit, as long as thou thinkeſt fit to continue me in that condition of life. Bleſs me with a wiſe and obſervant heart, to diſcern and mark the nature and diſpoſitions of thoſe, to whom I ſhall be joyned, in any bonds of love or duty: That I may delight to pleaſe them to the utmoſt of my power; and

and ſtudy their content and ſatisfaction; and bear with their infirmities; and chuſe the fitteſt opportunities to do them good, and amend what is amiſs in them. Free us all, who ſhall ſtand related to each other, from all peeviſhneſs and unreaſonable paſſions: let no miſtake or cauſleſs jealouſie ſpoil the entireneſs of our affection: indue us with great purity of heart, and a chaſte converſation: And beſtow upon us ſuch meek, ſweet and compliant diſpoſitions, that this may not prove a ſtate of temptation and ſorrow, but of godlineſs and holineſs, to our mutual joy and happineſs.

Make us ever mindful of the Covenant wherein we ſtand ingaged to each other; eſpecially of that ſacred Vow wherein we ſtand bound to thee, by our being baptized into the Name of Jeſus Chriſt; that we may faithfully keep and perform it. Tye us ſo faſt together in unity of ſpirit, that we may have the

ſame common cares; and bear one anothers burdens; and endeavour to increaſe each others joys, and lighten each others ſorrows; and in all the changes and alterations of our condition we may religiouſly preſerve an immutable love unto and delight in each other, to the end of our days. Eſpecially help us to ſtir up one another to the love of thee, and our bleſſed Saviour; and to do all good offices to our neighbours: that after we have enjoyed the comfort of a ſweet ſociety, and been a bleſſing to all that are near unto us; we may finally part in peace, and reſt in a good hope to dwell together for ever, in happy friendſhip with thee, and with our Lord, and all the holy ones. *Amen, Amen.*

A Prayer of Parents for their Children when they are grown up to ſome underſtanding.

WE humbly worſhip thy glorious Majeſty, O Lord moſt high; we acknowledge thy infinite goodneſs, that thou art pleaſed to give us leave to call thee Father, who art the poſſeſſor of heaven and of earth. We thank thee for thy moſt tender care over us ever ſince we were born. More eſpecially for the knowledge thou haſt given us of thy great love in Jeſus Chriſt: And that thou haſt ſo timely prevented us with thy grace; and inclined our hearts to thy fear, and love, and ſervice.

Vouchſafe, we beſeech thee, O moſt merciful Father, to take our Children alſo (which we have already dedicated unto thee, and commend-

ed

ed to thy care) into the protection and guidance of the ſame gracious providence, which hath been ſo watchful over us. Thou knoweſt the great weakneſs of our nature; how fooliſh and inconſiderate we are (eſpecially in our younger years) how violent in our paſſions; how apt to liſten to temptations, and eaſie to be ſeduced by them; how ready to flatter and abuſe our ſelves with vain hopes; and how unwilling to believe what is contrary to our deſires. And therefore we the more earneſtly implore thy bleſſing upon our indeavours to ſeaſon their minds betime with a Religious ſenſe of thee their Creator, and of their duty which they owe thee, and of that good in which their true happineſs lyes. And we beſeech thee likewiſe to excite our hearts to the greater diligence and thoughtfulneſs and care, to imitate thy fatherly love towards our ſelves; by watching over them to do them good, and to train them up

up in thy fear. Indue us with wiſdom and prudence to give them wholeſome and ſeaſonable inſtructions: and diſpoſe their hearts to receive and remember them. Help us to govern exactly all our affections and paſſions; that we may neither embolden them to any thing that is evil by too much indulgence, nor diſcourage them in their duty by too much ſeverity: But be examples of godlineſs and vertue to them, by a ſober, grave, gentle, humble, and devout behaviour and converſation. Work in them a great reverence to all their governours, teachers, and ſpiritual Paſtors; and bleſs their godly admonitions to them, that they may follow and obey them. Direct us alſo in the choice of fit perſons to aſſiſt us in their Education; and in the choice of fit imployments for them; whereby they may prove uſeful and profitable members of Church and State.

Bleſſed be thy goodneſs that they have

have escaped the dangers of infancy and child-hood. Good Lord, preserve them from all the evil and mischief to which the rashness and indiscretion of youth may betray them. And fortifie their minds against the power of all allurements to sin; that we may live to see them thy dutiful and obedient children, and may leave the world in hope that they will continue so, unto their lives end. Or if thou takest us away before they come to their full age, we commend them with the more ardent affection, to thy never failing mercy and compassion. O thou who art *the Father of the fatherless*, be their God, and let them *find mercy with thee*, according to thy word. Dispose of them so, that by loving and careful governours, holy examples, innocent and good company, pious and discreet counsels, with the help of thy divine grace, they may ever be secured in their duty,

Psal. 68. 5.

Hos. 14. 3.

duty, and follow after us to eternal life; through Chriſt Jeſus. *Amen.*

A ſhort Prayer for the uſe of a little Child.

O Lord, my moſt loving Saviour and merciful Redeemer; who commanddeſt that the little children ſhould come unto thee, and didſt take them up in thine arms, lay thy hands upon them, & bleſs them: Look graciouſly upon me, I humbly beſeech thee, and bleſs me; who am one of thy children, dedicated to thy ſervice. Pitty the weakneſs of my tender age, and prevent me betimes with thy grace. Make me ſeriouſly to remember my Creator in the days of my youth. Indue me with the fear of my God: and make me always mindful of the Vow and Promiſe that was made in my name, when

when I was baptized; *to forſake the Devil and all his works, to believe in God and to ſerve him.*

Make me dutiful (as thou O Lord Jeſus waſt) unto my Parents [*loving to my Brethren and Siſters*] obedient to my inſtructors: thankful for the good counſel of my Friends: humble and reverent to my betters: and meek and gentle to all men. That as I grow in years, ſo I may grow in wiſdom and favour with thee, and with all thoſe who are good.

Preſerve me from all dangers; let thy good Angels be my keepers and defenders; and guide me by thy holy Spirit; that the longer I live, the better I may be: to the comfort of my Parents, the honour and glory of my God, and my own happineſs, here and for ever. *Amen.*

A ſhorter.

HEavenly Father, who deſpiſeſt nothing that thou haſt made, but takeſt care of the beaſts of the earth, and of the fowls of the air: bleſs me thy child, whom thou haſt made in thy own Image. Preſerve me this day from all evil, both in ſoul and body. Give me what thou ſeeſt good for me. Eſpecially an heart to know thee early, to be thankful to thee, to love thee, and to do thy will, as well as I am able. Bleſs my Father and my Mother, and all my friends: and make me a follower of thoſe who are good; for the ſake of my Saviour Chriſt Jeſus the Lord. *Amen.*

A Prayer for the uſe of a Child that hath loſt its Parents.

O Lord, who never faileſt thoſe that ſeek thee: but *giveſt to the beaſt his food, and to the young ravens which cry.* I caſt my ſelf upon thy infinite goodneſs, with whom the fatherleſs have been wont to find mercy. Be thou, *O Lord, Father and God of my life,* a moſt merciful and gracious Father unto me: and provide what thou ſeeſt, in thy wiſdom, to be neceſſary for me. Eſpecially beſtow upon me ſome faithful friend, that will admoniſh me, and take care of my ſoul, to bring me up religiouſly in the fear of thee my God. Preſerve me from all diſtruſt of thy good providence. Give me favour in the eyes of others, by an humble, ſubmiſſive and good be-

Pſal. 147. 9.

Eccius. 23. 4.

behaviour towards them. Make me diligent and induſtrious in ſome honeſt calling. And bleſs my labours and endeavours, that I may not be a burden unto others. But whatſoever my portion be in this world, give me grace to live ſo piouſly, juſtly and ſoberly, that I may not miſs of that *incorruptible inheritance, which fadeth not away, reſerved in the heavens for us*; through Chriſt Jeſus. *Amen.* 1 Pet. 1. 4.

A Prayer to be uſed by a Widow.

O God, by whoſe wiſe providence, which I humbly adore and reverence, I am left without my deareſt companion and guide in this our pilgrimage; and thereby deprived of the ſweeteſt comfort of life: behold the deſolate and ſorrowful eſtate of thy poor handmaid,

maid, who ſupplicates thy tender mercy and compaſſion towards her. Comfort me, good Lord, with a delightful ſenſe of thy Divine Preſence with me; and draw my heart the nearer to thee, in holy love and devout affection, and a lively hope that thou wilt never leave me nor forſake me.

I ought to thank thee at all times, for the many tokens of thy love towards me; and particularly for lending me this bleſſing ſo long, the value of which I now feel, by the want I am in of its ſupport. Pardon me, I beſeech thee, that I have not been ſo thankful for it, and the reſt of thy mercies, as I ought: nor ſo carefully improved them, as I might have done. *O take not away thy loving kindneſs from me in diſpleaſure.* But vouchſafe ſtill the continuance of thy favour towards me; eſpecially the ſupport of thy Divine Grace by the power of the holy Ghoſt, to enable me to bear this af-

fliction

fliction with an humble, meek and patient ſpirit. Moderate all my paſſions. Free me from all diſcontented and diſtruſtful thoughts. Help me to caſt all my care on thee, *who relieveſt the fatherleſs and widow, and careſt even for the ſtrangers.* Pſal. 146. 9. Fix my mind upon thy love in the Lord Jeſus; in whom thou wouldſt have us to *rejoyce always.* Lift up my thoughts to thoſe heavenly enjoyments in that bleſſed place where he is; [to which I hope my husband is departed.] And help me to follow after him with all diligence in a pure, grave and godly converſation; and by a careful education of my Children, to endeavour that they may be alſo with us in that glory.

Let thy bleſſing ever reſt upon them. And now that they are left to me alone, give me ſo much the more wiſdom to inſtruct and govern them aright; and ſo much the more love to them, and tender affection to their good

good and welfare. Make them to be a comfort to me in my Widow-hood by their increaſe in godlineſs; that we may chearfully ſerve thee together, in Prayers, and Thanksgivings, and reading of thy holy Word, and Communion with our bleſſed Saviour, and all other actions of a Chriſtian life. Prepare us for whatſoever condition it is, into which thou ſhalt be pleaſed to bring us; that neither fulneſs nor poverty, honour nor reproaches, health nor ſickneſs, may ever ſeparate us from thy love in Chriſt Jeſus: but we may perſevere in patient obedience to thee, till we receive that crown of life which he hath promiſed to them that love thee. *Amen.*

A Prayer for the uſe of a poor Servant.

O Lord moſt high; who art the *Maker of the rich and*

of

of the poor; with whom there is no reſpect of perſons: Look graciouſly upon me, I humbly beſeech thee, who here caſt down my ſelf before thee; acknowledging thy Soveraign power over all, and thy wiſe providence which hath diſpoſed all things into ſeveral ranks and orders, for their mutual help and benefit. I humbly ſubmit to the ſtate and condition wherein thou haſt been pleaſed to place me, below many others. I thank thee that I live; and that I live in health; and have ſtrength of body; (great and invaluable bleſſings!) and that I have ſo much liberty as to make my requeſts unto thee, and acknowledge thy mercies; and that I have any hope thou wilt never ceaſe to do me good, till thou haſt crowned all thy mercies in eternal life. Prov. 22. 2.

Good Lord, pardon me, if I have at any time murmur'd and repin'd at my condition, or envied the higher eſtate of other perſons. Pardon all

my

my other offences, whatsoever they have been: and vouchsafe but to deliver me from the bondage of sin, and to make me a Servant of Righteousness; and I shall not only be contented, but perpetually rejoyce in thy Salvation. Indue me with a right understanding of my duty in this relation wherein I stand. That according to thy command, I may account those whom I serve *worthy of all honour*; being careful
1 Tim. 6.1. *to please them in all things,*
Tit. 2.9, 10. *never contradicting, nor*
Ephes. 6.5,7. *purloyning: but shewing all good fidelity; and with good will and singleness of heart doing service, as to the Lord and not to men.* Help me to demean my self so
Collos. 3.23. 25. humbly, and *whatsoever I do, to do it so heartily*; that I may obtain favour in their eyes. Or if they be froward and hard to please, O God, preserve me from all unseemly passions, and disrespectful behaviour towards them. And make

me

me ſo much the more diligent in their buſineſs: remembring that *I ſerve the Lord Chriſt* from whom I expect to *receive the reward of the inheritance.* Coloſſ. 3. 23, 24.

If thou art pleaſed any other way to afflict me, with ſickneſs or pains in my body, which may hinder my labour and caſt me into poverty, Lord, ſtill ſtrengthen my faith and confidence in thee. And help me to bear it with a patient mind; looking into Jeſus, who took upon him the form of a Servant, and became poor, and ſuffered much for our ſake: but now is therefore highly exalted to ſuccour and comfort all thoſe that follow after him contentedly in well-doing. In his Name and Words I recommend my ſelf unto thy mercy, ſaying,

Our Father, &c.

A Prayer of a poor Priſoner *for Debt.*

O God, who art preſent to us in all places, and haſt regard to the ſighs and groans of the miſerable, who humbly implore thy pitty and compaſſion towards them: Vouchſafe to look graciouſly upon thy afflicted ſervant in this place; which is moſt deſolate and comfortleſs, unleſs the light of thy countenance ſhine upon me. I confeſs that I have too much abuſed the liberty which I formerly enjoyed; and did not ſo carefully improve, as I ought to have done, thoſe happy opportunities, which therewith were put into my hands. Many ways, I am ſenſible, I have offended thy Divine Majeſty * for which I am heartily ſorry; and acknowledg my

* *Here acknowledge the particulars.*

my ſelf infinitely indebted to thy goodneſs, that I am not plunged into the depth of miſery, to bewail my ſins in the bottomleſs pit.

I thank thee, O Lord, with all my ſoul that I am not ſhut up in the place of outer darkneſs; and that I have any hope to obtain the benefit of the redemption, which is in Chriſt Jeſus. In whoſe Name I beſeech thee to pardon me; and likewiſe to ſanctifie theſe ſtraits wherein I lye, to the freeing my ſoul from the bond of all iniquity, and the reſtoring me to the glorious liberty of thy children. Help me ſeriouſly to follow the direction of thy Providence in this reſtraint; and now that I am ſo much alone by my ſelf, to deſcend into my own heart, to ſearch and try my ways, and unfeignedly to turn to thee, my God. Enlarge my ſpirit more than ever, now that my body is confined, in fervent Prayer for thy Divine Grace, and in chearful Thankſgivings for the innumerable

benefits that I have received from thy bounty, and in tender pitty and commiſeration of the ſad condition of all diſtreſſed people. And be pleaſed to touch the hearts of my Creditors alſo, with a ſenſe of my miſeries: incline them to accept of what I am able to pay, and make me willing conſcientiouſly to ſatisfie them to the utmoſt of my power.

In the mean time beſtow upon me the bleſſing of a contented ſpirit. Help me patiently to endure the inconveniences of this place. And preſerve me from the danger of all the temptations, which I meet with in it: eſpecially from ſeeking a remedy of my ſorrows, in the pleaſures of intemperance, or evil company, or any prophane mirth whatſoever. Be thou my comfort; O God, my exceeding joy; and the full ſatisfaction of my ſoul, in all conditions. And when thou art pleaſed to deliver me from this place, and reſtore me again to my de-

desired freedom: O Lord, make me ever mindful of the vows, wherein I am now forward to bind my self. Dispose my heart then to be so sensibly affected, with the least of those mercies which formerly I have little regarded; that I may never forget to praise thee even for the benefit of a sweeter air than now I enjoy, and to acknowledge thee in the night season upon my bed, and to thank thee for the coursest food; and especially I may rejoyce to go again into the great Congregation to praise thee with the most ardent love for all spiritual blessings in Christ Jesus.

Preserve in me also a grateful remembrance of the kindness of my Friends and Neighbours: especially of those persons to whom I stand particularly indebted, when by their charity I shall be released. And whatsoever loss they sustain by my poverty, good Lord, make it up abundantly to them and theirs, out of thy rich

grace and mercy. Requite their love with plenty and prosperity in this world; and give them the reward of eternal life and glory in the world to come; through Christ Jesus. *Amen.*

A Prayer of a great Malefactor in Prison.

O Most holy and righteous Judge of the whole world; give a sinful and miserable wretch leave to prostrate himself before the Throne of thy Grace, and implore that mercy which formerly I have despised or abused. I am not worthy, I confess, to lift up my eyes towards heaven; and it becomes me in the greatest dejection of spirit to sigh and groan under the load of my sins: which have been so great and many, so bold, so presumptuous and shameless, that

that when with an awakened mind I reflect upon them, I am ready to ſink into hell, and utterly deſpair of any mercy. O God, *how have I hated inſtruction, and my heart deſpiſed reproof? And have not obeyed the voice of my teachers, nor inclined mine ear to them that admoniſhed me?* How ſwift have my feet been to run into evil? and how backward and averſe have I been to any thing that is good? O the injuries which I have done my Neighbours! the abuſe of my ſelf and of thy good creatures! The prophane contempt or neglect of thee and the duties of thy worſhip and ſervice! * The remembrance of all this is dreadful: the burden of it is intolerable.

Prov. 5. 12, 13.

* *Here let him reckon up the blaſphemy, debauchery, and violence that he hath been guilty of.*

How ſhall I appear before thee, at whoſe rebuke the Mountains quake, ſince I cannot think of appearing before an earthly Judge

without ſhame and affrightment of ſpirit? O Lord, work in me a greater dread of thee, with a greater ſhame and confuſion of face; now that I am in thy preſence. For which end, be pleaſed to repreſent unto me effectually, the wickedneſs, the baſeneſs and vileneſs of all my evil doings, as well as the guilt and juſt deſert of them. O that I could hate and abhor them, more than that death, * which I expect ſhortly to ſuffer for them! Beſtow on me that ingenuous and godly ſorrow which worketh repentance, and unfeigned purpoſes of amendment of life. They come too late indeed, I may juſtly think, to find acceptance with thee: and therefore, not without fear and trembling, and a great ſenſe of my undeſervings, I look up unto thee; acknowledging thy infinite goodneſs, if thou wilt vouchſafe but the ſmalleſt hope of mercy.

* *Or* puniſhment; *when the crime is leſs.*

Mercy, mercy, good Lord: caſt me

me not quite out of thy ſight, for Jeſus Chriſts his ſake, who gave himſelf for us to redeem us from all iniquity. It is the beginning of ſome mercy, and an earneſt, I hope, of more, that thon haſt made me ſenſible of mine offences; and that thou haſt wrought in me a reſolution to forſake them, and ſome love to a godly, ſober and righteous life. Help me to manifeſt the ſincerity and uprightneſs of my ſoul in theſe reſolutions, as much as I am able; by giving thee hearty thanks that the hand of juſtice hath over-taken and laid hold upon me, and put a ſtop to the further miſchief which I might have committed; and by making a free and open confeſſion of my crimes, and taking the ſhame which belongs to me, before others; and by acknowledging that I am unworthy to live; and by earneſt admoniſhments to all, to be warned by my example, and to ceaſe betimes to do evil, and learn to do

well. O God, that I could glorifie thee a little in my latter end, after this manner. And till I come to receive my deſerved puniſhment, help me to ſpend my time in bewailing my ſins; in humbling my ſelf before thee for them; in ſetting my heart againſt them; in ſtudying and admiring with the greateſt affection the holy life of the Lord Jeſus; in calling other offenders to repentance, and exhorting them thereby to give thee glory. Deny me not the grace, I beſeech thee, to enable me thus to imploy my ſelf; that I may have ſome taſte of thy mercy, and the fear of death may be abated by ſome hope, that when my ſoul ſhall be parted from the body, thou, O bleſſed Jeſus, wilt receive it, though ſo unworthy, into ſome of the heavenly manſions. *Amen, Amen.*

A Souldier's Prayer that fights for his Country.

O Moſt mighty Lord, the Fountain of life and ſtrength, and courage; whom all the hoſt of heaven continually obeys. I proſtrate my ſelf before thee in a religious ſenſe, that the fear of thy divine Majeſty, a pure conſcience, and a ſtrong hope and confidence in thy Omnipotent goodneſs, will give the moſt aſſured reſolution, valour and boldneſs to our ſpirits, in all dangers. Moſt humbly beſeeching thee to purge my heart from the love of every thing that is offenſive to thee; to pardon all my former ſins, negligences and ignorances; and to indue me with the grace of thy holy Spirit ſtrictly to amend and reform my life, according to thy holy Word.

Many

Many temptations, I am ſenſible, will continually aſſault me, in this ſtate of life wherein I am ingaged. But I as earneſtly beſeech thee to defend me from the power of them, as I deſire to be defended from death, and to be covered by thee in the day of battle. O that no covetous deſires or greedineſs of ſpoil, no ambition or vain-glory, no hatred or malice, may puſh me forward in any enterprize! But give me the victory over theſe and all other vile affections and paſſions, before I meet with any other enemy. And graciouſly bleſs and proſper our arms, for the defence of our Country, and the preſervation of our Religion, Government, Laws and Liberties. And whilſt we fight for the preſervation of good Order, Lord, give us all grace to be examples of it our ſelves. That abhorring all blaſphemy and prophaneneſs, all riot and laſciviouſneſs; and *doing violence to no man, accuſing no man falſly,*

Luk. 3. 14.

falſly, and being content with our wages, we may adorn both our Cauſe and our Religion: and whatſoever the iſſue be, we may have peace in our own hearts, and living or dying may be accepted with thee; through Chriſt Jeſus, the Prince of peace. To whom, *&c.* *Amen.*

A Prayer for the uſe of one that is Aged.

I Adore thee, O Lord of life and glory; who art from everlaſting to everlaſting, and changeſt not: beſeeching thee to look graciouſly upon thy unworthy ſervant, whoſe hope is only in thine infinite mercy; by which my life hath been prolonged to old age, and which is able to make me eternally bleſſed. I thank thee for thy inconceiveable love in the Lord Jeſus, who hath given

given me ſuch a ſolid and ſtedfaſt ground of hope, to ſuppport and ſtrengthen my heart, when all the comforts of this life fail me: and likewiſe praiſe and magnifie thy bounteous goodneſs, for thoſe innumerable bleſſings, which, time after time, thou haſt beſtowed upon me, from the beginning of my life till this preſent *.

* *Let them be reckoned up as particularly as you can.*

O my God, help me always to ſolace my ſelf, now that the days are come wherein I have no pleaſure, with a perpetual remembrance of all thy paſt loving kindneſſes to me; and with thoſe hopes which I have of thy endleſs love in the other world. And the more my outward ſenſes decay, vouchſafe me the quicker and more lively ſenſe in my heart of thoſe good things which thou haſt laid up there, for thoſe that fear thee. Preſerve me from all diſcontented thoughts, and peeviſh paſſions. Make me an example unto others of *Holi-*

neſs,

Holineſs, diſcretion, temperance, gravity, peaceableneſs and patience: that ſo I may with the more authority be *a teacher of good things*; and *my hoary head may be a crown of glory, being found in the ways of* righteouſneſs. *O how comely a thing is judgement for gray hairs; and for ancient men to know counſel!* Pardon me, good Lord, that I have made no better improvement of my time and experience; for the furniſhing of my mind with this wiſdom, and with thoſe vertues. Pardon all my negligences, and all my offences. * And fill my heart with a comfortable ſenſe of thy pardoning mercy in Chriſt Jeſus: that having no other burden, but that of age, to oppreſs my ſpirit, I may rejoyce in thee as long as I live, and at laſt lay my ſelf down to reſt in peace, and return my ſoul back unto thee chear-

Tit. 2. 2, 3.

Prov. 20. 29.

Eccluſ. 25. 4.

* *Remember them particularly.*

chearfully, whenſoever thou calleſt for it; in ſure and certain hope of the reſurrection of the dead, and of that glory, honour and immortality, which thou haſt graciouſly promiſed us by thy dear Son, my moſt bleſſed Lord and Saviour, Chriſt Jeſus. With whom I deſire to live to give thee eternal praiſes. *Amen.*

A large

FORM OF DEVOTION.

When any perſon is diſpoſed to ſpend a day, or part of it, in Devotion: the uſual addreſſes to God in the morning, may be continued in this manner.

O Moſt High and holy One, who inhabiteſt eternity, and art God over all, moſt bleſſed for evermore. Happy are they who ſtand continually in thy preſence, and are always admiring, praiſing, loving and obeying thee; and

and rejoycing in thy love and favour towards them! The higheſt Angels can deſire no greater bliſs, than to be thus knit unto thee, and to live in ſuch conſtant union and friendſhip with thee. An happineſs, I am ſenſible, that is above our reach, who dwell in houſes of clay, and groan under the burden of this fleſh: but which we aſpire towards, and our uncloathed ſpirits hope for, in the other world. And bleſſed be thy infinite goodneſs, we are incouraged by Chriſt Jeſus to look up unto thee, for the beginning and taſte of this happineſs; whilſt we remain here below, at this great diſtance from the Throne of thy Glory.

And accordingly I humbly proſtrate my ſelf before thee at this time, beſeeching thee in the name of my dear Saviour who gave himſelf for me, that thou wilt graciouſly vouchſafe to inſpire me with ſuch delightful thoughts of thee, and ſuch a transforming love unto thee, as may

fill

fill my heart with unſpeakable joy and ſatisfaction, whilſt I am in thy preſence to admire and adore thee; to praiſe thy incomprehenſible perfections; to acknowledge with all humility my intire dependence on thee; thankfully to remember all the benefits thou haſt done unto me; ſorrowfully to bewail my ungrateful behaviour towards thee; moſt earneſtly to deprecate thy diſpleaſure; to implore thy grace and favour; and to make an abſolute ſurrender of my ſelf to thee, with moſt hearty Devotion to thy ſervice.

It is the unfeigned deſire of my ſoul to ſpend ſome time in attending wholly to theſe duties; the better to diſpoſe me to ſerve thee, in the reſt of my life. But alas! O Lord, what am I, or what can I do, unleſs thou wilt make thy ſelf preſent to me; and ſend down thy holy Spirit upon me! My thoughts and affections are exceeding dull and heavy;

and

and they will ſoon flag and grow weary; unleſs thou wilt be pleaſed by thy Almighty Power to raiſe and bear them up towards heaven. I moſt humbly therefore again beſeech thee, in thy infinite mercy, to touch my heart with ſuch a lively ſenſe of thy Divine Majeſty, as may fix my wandring thoughts, and compoſe my tumultuous affections, and ſtir up my flat and cold deſires, and may make me feel the power, and taſte the ſweetneſs of every Divine Truth; whilſt I read or meditate in thy holy Word, and whilſt I pray to thee, and praiſe thee, and bleſs thy holy Name. O that all other things may be ſhut out of my ſoul, and that I may be ſo alone with thee, as to be more apprehenſive of thy greatneſs, and of thy goodneſs, and of thy purity, and of my near relation to thee, and the innumerable obligations which I lye under to be thine intirely! O that nothing may be ſo bitter to me as to think,

that

that I have in the leaſt offended thee! and that nothing may be ſo marvellous in my eyes, as thy exceeding abundant love in the Lord Jeſus, by whom thou haſt incouraged ſinners to place their faith and hope in thee!

Help me, O my God, through that new and living way which he hath conſecrated, to draw nigh unto thee, and to throw down my ſelf at thy feet; waiting for a gracious look from thee, reſigning my will to thee, ſtrongly uniting it in hearty affection to thy holy Will, and reſolving never to riſe up any more in oppoſition to it, but to live in thy love, and in ſincere obedience to all thy commands.

So ſhall my ſoul bleſs thee as long as I live; I will alway be ſpeaking good of thy Name, and will *ſhew forth thy praiſe*, as well as I am able, *to all generations*. Amen.

After

AFter this ſhort addreſs to God for his aſſiſtance; conſider a while who it is, to whom you have begun to ſpeak. Caſt your eyes upon the heaven and the earth, and think of the glory of that Majeſty, which fills all things, and cannot be contained in any. Then labour to affect your heart with your own mean, vile and ſinful condition. For which end examine what particular ſins you have been guilty of. Set them down in writing before your eyes, that they may be confeſſed and lamented. And likewiſe conſider in the ſame manner, what particular bleſſings you have received, that they may be moſt thankfully acknowledged. In all which you may aſſiſt your ſelves and be much excited, by reading ſome of the Pſalms *of* David, *and ſome part of ſuch pious Books as you are acquainted withal. After which, proceed to expreſs*

expreſs the ſenſe of your heart to God, with the greateſt deliberation, in the manner following: pauſing a while, and ruminating upon what you have ſaid; at the end of every part thereof.

I.

O Moſt glorious Majeſty of heaven and earth, upon whom all creatures depend for life, and breath, and all things. I moſt thankfully embrace and deſire wiſely and faithfully to improve this happy leiſure, which thou vouchſafeſt me, of retiring from this world, and making my reſort to thee, *the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort.* Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive from me and from the whole world, *bleſſing, and honour, and glory, and power;*

2 Cor. 1. 3.
Rev. 5. 13.
Pſal. 48. 1.
Rev. 4. 8.
1 Sam. 2. 2.
Pſal. 145. 17.
45. 7.

Job 37.23. Pſal. 19.1. Job 42.2. Pſal. 135.6. 148. 5, 6. 147. 5. 104. 24, 27, 28, 31. 145. 4, 13. 102 27. 119. 89. 146. 2. 111. 1. 148. 13. Job. 11. 7.

power; for *thou art great and greatly to be praiſed.* All the hoſt of heaven continually praiſeth thee; and ſo ought all the Church on earth, ſaying; *Holy, holy, holy, Lord God almighty, which is, which was, and which is to come. There is none holy as the Lord, for there is none beſides thee. Thou art righteous in all thy ways, and holy in all thy works. Thou loveſt righteouſneſs, and hateſt iniquity; and art excellent in power, and in judgement, and in plenty of juſtice. The earth is thine, and the fulneſs thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein. The heavens declare the glory of God, the firmament ſheweth his handy-work. The ſun, moon and ſtars praiſe the name of the Lord; for he commanded, and they were created. He hath alſo eſtabliſhed them for ever and ever: He hath made a decree*

which

which ſhall not paſs. I know, O Lord, that thou canſt do every thing; and that no thought of thine can be hindred. Whatſoever the Lord pleaſes, that doth he in heaven and in earth, in the ſeas, and in all deep places. For he is great, and of great power; his underſtanding is infinite. Praiſed be thy Soveraign goodneſs and tender mercy, which ſpreads it ſelf *over all thy works. O Lord, how manifold are thy works! in wiſdom haſt thou made them all. And they all wait on thee; that thou mayſt give them their meat in due ſeaſon. That thou giveſt them they gather: thou openeſt thy hand, they are filled with good. The glory of the Lord ſhall endure for ever: the Lord ſhall rejoyce in his works.* Thou always waſt, and ever wilt be the moſt holy, powerful, wiſe and good. *Thy kingdom is an everlaſting kingdom, and thy dominion endureth throughout all generations. One generation ſhall praiſe thy works to another, and ſhall declare thy mighty acts.* They all paſs

away like a ſhadow; *but thou art the ſame, and thy years ſhall have no end. For ever, O Lord, thy word is ſetled in heaven: Thy faithfulneſs is unto all generations. While I live,* there-fore, *will I praiſe the Lord: I will ſing praiſes to my God, while I have any being. I will praiſe thee, O Lord with my whole heart, whoſe name is exalted above all bleſſing and praiſe. For we cannot know the Almighty to perfection: His wiſdom is unſearchable, and his ways paſt finding out. His name alone is excellent, his glory is above the earth and heaven.*

II.

O what high dignity is this! that I am admitted into thy preſence to ſpeak unto thee; the *bleſſed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of Lords* 1 Tim. 6. 15. *who only haſt immortality!* O how happy ought I to think my ſelf, that I may draw thus nigh to thee, who dwel-

dwelleſt in light unapproachable! who art ſo happy in thy own moſt bleſſed Nature; and who if thou doſt but open thy ſelf to any ſoul, and filleſt it with a great ſenſe of thee and affection to thee, thou letteſt heavenly joys into it, and makeſt it happy beyond expreſſion! For heaven cannot be ſeparated from thee: but whereſoever thou art, there is peace and ſatisfaction, joy and gladneſs, and unſpeakable bliſs. Adored be thy divine goodneſs, which hath made me ſo happy this day, as to feel ſome ſenſe of thee begin to ſhine in my ſoul. Adored be thy goodneſs, which incourages me ſtill to look up unto thee, that I may feel more of thee; yea, hath ingaged me by innumerable Mercies, to continue theſe addreſſes to thy divine Majeſty: *O how excellent is thy loving kindneſs, O God! How precious are thy thoughts unto me! how* Pſal. 36. 7. 139. 17.

Pſal. 46. 5. *great is the ſum of them!* 22. 9, 10. *Many, O Lord my God, are thy wonderful works which thou haſt done, and thy thoughts which are to me-ward: they cannot be reckoned up in order unto thee: if I would declare and ſpeak of them, they are more than can be numbred.* By thee I was *fearfully and wonderfully made in ſecret. Thou art he that took me out of my mothers womb; and didſt make me hope upon her breaſts. I have been caſt upon thee ever ſince,* and thou haſt been my gracious God unto this moment. My infancy and childhood was attended with a very careful providence. And thou haſt bleſſed my riper years with a continued health and ſtrength of body and mind, and abundance of good things to ſupport and refreſh me in my pilgrimage through this world to a better life. I never have wanted my daily bread, even when I was not able to ask it of thee. And thou haſt beſtowed on me many friends

friends and kind benefactors: And prevented me likewiſe by a timely grace, and ſent me many inſtructors; that I might remember thee my Creator, and Jeſus Chriſt my Saviour. Into whoſe family, bleſſed be thy Name, I was early adopted, and aſſured of thy fatherly love and tender mercy towards me. O how deeply do I ſtand indebted to thee for all thoſe, by whoſe Counſels, or Sermons, or Writings, or religious Society, or godly Examples, or charitable Prayers, I have been helped forward in my way to heaven! Bleſſed be thy Name for all the means whereby I have been led to the knowledge of thy great love in the Lord Jeſus, which paſſeth knowledge. For ever bleſſed be thy Name, for ſending him into the world, born of a woman, to be a teacher of righteouſneſs; to go before us, and leave us a pattern of a moſt holy life; to dye for our ſins; and to riſe again for our juſtification; and

then to ascend into the heavens to prepare a place for us; where thou hast advanced him *above all principalities and powers, and given him a name above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, and every tongue confess him to be the Lord, to the glory of thee, O God, the Father Almighty.* I glorifie thee, O heavenly Father, with all my heart and soul, for inspiring thy holy Apostles and Prophets; and *shining into their hearts to give the light of the knowledge of thy glory, in the face of Jesus Christ.* I thank thee for calling me to faith in thee; for making such great and precious promises to incourage our hope, and for disposing me, in any measure, to be an inheritour of them. I thank thee for granting such power to our blessed Lord, to fulfil his word; for making him a royal high-Priest, and appointing him to bless us, here and eternally. Glory be to thee, O

Phil. 2. 10, 11.

2 Cor. 4. 6.

Lord

Lord moſt high, who haſt ſo often favoured me with the gracious viſitations of thy holy Spirit; inlightning my mind, drawing my will towards thee, exciting in me holy deſires, working many pious purpoſes and reſolutions in my heart, giving me a taſte how gracious thou art, ſetting before me the hope of eternal life, and perſwading me by innumerable arguments to entertain thoſe bleſſings, which I ſhould have been forward of my ſelf to have deſired. *Who can utter the mighty acts of the Lord! who can ſhow forth all his praiſe!* Pſal. 106. 2. How often haſt thou ſpared me when I deſerved to be puniſhed! How many dangers have I eſcaped! From how many aſſaults of the enemy have I been guarded! And how many of his deſigns have been defeated by an inviſible and unobſerved goodneſs, which ought for ever to be acknowledged!*

* *Mention all the particular mercies you can remember: and then proceed ſtill to admire his loving kindneſs, in all thoſe you took no notice of, or have forgotten.*

III.

O my God, with what awe and reverence ought I to make mention of thy name, *who dwelleſt in eternity, whoſe throne is ineſtimable, whoſe glory cannot be comprehended, before whom the hoſts of angels ſtand with trembling!* With what humility of ſoul, ought I to acknowledge thy Divine Grace, that thou who art ſo great and highly exalted, wilt humble thy ſelf to take notice of ſuch poor things as we are! Thou art to be admired with our higheſt thoughts: thou art to be loved with all our heart, and ſoul and ſtrength. We ought to render thee moſt chearful ſervice; and confeſs that we never ſerve our ſelves more, than when we even loſe all thought of our ſelves, and forget all things here, in admiring, loving, praiſing, and giving thanks to thee. All that is within

2 Eſd. 8. 20, 21.

within me ought to bleſs thy holy Name. O how great ought my joy to be in thy love, and in thy Salvation: who art *worthy to be praiſed with all pure and holy praiſe. Therefore let thy Saints praiſe thee, with all thy creatures. And let all thine angels, and thine elect praiſe thee for ever. It is good to praiſe God and exalt his Name, and with honour to ſhew forth all his works; therefore be not ſlack to praiſe him.* Yea, to thee, O Lord, I ought to reſign my ſelf with the greateſt willingneſs of heart; to truſt and hope in thee at all times; to excite all others to ſhew forth thy praiſe; and to ſtudy to glorifie thee more and more, not only by my words, but with my body and ſoul, in all the actions of a ſober, righteous and godly life. I can deſire no greater honour in this world, than that I may live to the praiſe of the glory of thy grace in Chriſt Jeſus; walking worthy of

Tob. 8. 16. 12. 6.

thee, who haſt called me to thy Kingdom and Glory; and behaving my ſelf in all things, as becomes one that hath received ſuch pledges of thy love already, and looks for thy mercy unto eternal life. All thy Laws, I know, are juſt and good. *Thy ways are ways of pleaſantneſs, and all thy paths are peace. More to be deſired are thy commandments than gold, yea, than much fine gold: ſweeter alſo than hony, and the honey comb. By them doth thy ſervant ſhine gloriouſly; and in keeping of them there is great reward. He that loveth them, loveth life; he that holdeth them faſt ſhall inherit glory; and whereſoever they enter the Lord will bleſs. Great peace have they that love thy Law: and nothing ſhall offend them. The Lord God is a ſun and ſhield: the Lord will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that*

Prov. 3.17.

Pſal. 19.10, 11.

119.165.

84. 11, 12.

Eccluſ. 4.12.

that walk uprightly. O Lord of hosts, bleſſed is the man that truſteth in thee!

IV.

But the more, O Lord, I ſpeak in thy praiſe, the more I am ſenſible, I reproach my ſelf; who have not given thee that honour and glory, that fear and love, that hearty ſervice and chearful obedience, which is due unto thee, ſo many ways. I ſtand condemned out of my own mouth, of moſt fearful ingratitude to thee, from whom I have received ſo many, and ſuch ineſtimable benefits. How ſeldom have I thought of them? Or how little have they affected my heart? How loth have I often been, to diſpoſe my ſelf to commemorate the greateſt love of my deareſt Saviour? And how ſoon am I weary, even of the moſt delightful imployment, of praiſing and bleſſing thee? With whom I profeſs that I deſire and hope to live for ever, and praiſe thy

thy Name. O the vanity of my mind! the looſeneſs of my thoughts! the inordinateneſs of my deſires, and unrulineſs of my paſſions! the diſcontent of my ſpirit! the unſtedfaſtneſs of my reſolutions! the breach of my promiſes! the coldneſs of my prayers, and the dulneſs of my meditations! the loſs of my precious time, and neglect of good opportunities! my eagerneſs after theſe worldly enjoyments, and feeble indeavours after heaven!

I am aſtoniſhed to think, that ever I ſhould diſtruſt thy providence, who haſt been ſo tenderly careful of me; or be unthankful for thy benefits, which are every moment poured forth ſo plentifully upon me; or be uncharitable to my Neighbours, when I ſtand in ſo great need of mercy my ſelf, and live continually upon thy bounty; or abuſe any of thoſe bleſſings, which thou canſt ſo eaſily deprive me of, or wholly ſpoil the comfort of them. And yet

alas

alas! how prone have I been to deceive my ſelf with ſhadows of Religion and Devotion towards thee? and to content my ſelf with the praiſes of thoſe divine perfections, which I have not ſo zealouſly ſtudied to imitate? O how unlike am I to the humble, the meek, the pitiful, and the patient Jeſus? Yea, how inſenſible am I of his incomparable love, which made him to lay down his life for me? How many ways have I injured my Neighbours, or neglected to do them good? I am conſcious to my ſelf of ſundry offences, not only againſt the rules of righteouſneſs and mercy, but of ſobriety and godlineſs *. And thou to whom all things paſt are preſent, who ſearcheſt the hearts and tryeſt the reins, knoweſt a great deal more. My ſecret ſins are no more hid from thee, than thoſe which are moſt open and manifeſt.

* *Here mention the particular acts of intemperance, uncharitableneſs, or any elſe you have been guilty of.*

niſeſt. And they are all the more grievous, becauſe a petty temptation hath too oft prevailed to make me neglect my duty towards thee. O how ſhameful is it, that a ſmall gain, or a momentany pleaſure, or the good word of men whoſe breath is in their noſtrils, ſhould be preferred before that honour which I owe to thee, and thoſe infinite treaſures of thy grace in Chriſt Jeſus, and that immortal life and glory, which he hath promiſed to the faithful! And all this againſt the clear underſtanding which thou haſt given me of thy will; againſt many holy purpoſes, reſolutions and vows of abſolute obedience to it in all things; and againſt the taſtes I have had how gracious thou art, and how good it is to keep thy commandments.

V.

I bluſh, O Lord, to lift up mine eyes towards heaven. To me belongs

longs nothing but ſhame and confuſion of face; in which I ought to lye down before thee, if I reflected only upon the baſeneſs and vileneſs of my deſcent; being the off-ſpring of diſloyal parents, who were rebels and traytors againſt thy divine Majeſty. This is a juſt reproach and diſgrace to the beſt of us. We were tainted in our firſt Father, who hath left a foul blot and ſtain upon our Nature: and we feel that weakneſs in our reaſon, that ſtrength and violence in our paſſions, and that forwardneſs in our wills to follow them, and to be led by them, which is ſufficient to humble and lay us low in our own eyes. With what dejection of ſpirit then ought I to mention all thoſe offences, whereby I or others have juſtified that firſt rebellion, and ſtill taken part with the Devil and his Angels, againſt thee and the motions of thy holy Spirit in our hearts!

Thy mercy indeed is ſo much the more

more miraculous, which hath beſtowed ſuch great benefits, as I have acknowledged, upon ſuch vile, ſuch ſinful, ſuch unthankful wretches, and at the beſt ſuch unprofitable creatures; whoſe underſtandings are ſo ſhallow to comprehend and admire thy love; whoſe affections are ſo heavy, ſo liſtleſs, and ſo unapt to lay it to heart; and who when they have done all that they can, have done no more than was their duty to do. But the greater reaſon there is that I ſhould be confounded at the remembrance of my diſobedience to thee, notwithſtanding ſuch unexpected, as well as undeſerved, demonſtrations of thy love and grace towards mankind. It becomes me to bow my ſelf lower than my knees before thee; and to debaſe my ſelf as much as I am able in thy preſence; ſince I am but ſinful duſt and aſhes, that deſerves to be caſt down, even into the pit of deſtruction. The very multitude of my offences is enough

to

to amaze and perplex my thoughts; the weight of them, did I always feel it, may well depreſs and ſink my ſpirit into the greateſt horror and affrightment; but the baſeneſs and ingratitude of them to ſo gracious a Father, O how ———

VI.

I am not able to expreſs, O Lord, the ſhame, the conſternation and the trouble of my ſpirit, at the thought of that ingratitude. I loath and abhor my ſelf, as unworthy to live and breath upon the face of the earth. I am aſtoniſhed at thy wonderful patience, and long-ſuffering, which not only endures ſuch a wretch as I am; but permits me to ſpeak unto thee, and to cry for mercy to that love, which I have ſo much abuſed. O that I were ſenſibly affected with ſomething of thee! That at leaſt thy ſparing and forbearing mercy did mightily move, and everlaſtingly

laſtingly poſſeſs my heart with admiration of it! That ſo I may with the more ingenuous ſorrow and grief bewail mine offences, againſt ſuch tender bowels of compaſſion towards me. *O that my head were waters, and mine eyes a fountain of tears*, that I might weep bitterly for my unkind requitals of the infinite bounty of thee my Creator, and of the inconceiveable love of my bleſſed Saviour, and of the unwearied grace of thy holy Spirit, which I hope I ſtill feel working in my heart! Fill me, O God, with the ſaddeſt remembrance of all my follies; and poſſeſs my reaſon ſo much againſt them, that I may have an utter hatred and deteſtation of them, as the greateſt offences to me, as well as to thy divine Majeſty. It is eaſier, I know, to make large confeſſions, than to be truly contrite and broken in heart: and we are more inclin'd to ſigh and groan under the ſenſe of thy diſpleaſure, than

Jer. 9. 1.

than to *abhorr that which is evil, and to cleave to that which is good.* Be thou therefore pleaſed, O Lord the Father of our ſpirits, to wound my ſoul with a lively ſenſe of the vileneſs of my behaviour towards thee, *the God of my life, in whoſe hand my breath is, and whoſe are all my ways.* Eſtrange me from every thing, that will not let me love thee with all my heart, and ſoul, and ſtrength; by whom it is that I have power to love any thing at all. Set my heart in ſuch a perfect enmity to all things contrary to thy bleſſed will, that I may never be reconciled to them any more. And diſpoſe me to ſuch an entire affection to all thy commands, that none of them may be grievous to me, but I may account thy yoke to be eaſie, and thy burden to be light.

Rom. 12. 9.
Pſal. 42. 8.
Dan. 5. 23.

And then *be merciful unto me,* good Lord, *according to thy loving kind-*

Pſal. 51. 1. 25. 7. 38. 18. 32. 5. 143. 2. 130. 3, 4. 86. 5, 6. 25. 11.

kindneſs: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my tranſgreſſions. Be merciful unto me for Jeſus his ſake, who came into the world and dyed to ſave ſinners. *O remember not the ſins of my youth, nor the tranſgreſſions* of my riper years: *according to thy mercy remember thou me, for thy goodneſs ſake, O Lord. For I confeſs mine iniquity, and am ſorry for my ſin. I acknowledge my ſin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. Enter not therefore into judgement with thy ſervant: for if thou, Lord, ſhouldeſt mark iniquities; O Lord, who ſhall ſtand? But there is forgiveneſs with thee: that thou mayſt be feared. Thou art good and ready to forgive: and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee. Give ear therefore unto my prayer, and attend to the voice of my ſupplications. And*

for

for thy name ſake pardon mine iniquity, for it is great.

VII.

Great are thy tender-mercies, O Lord; who haſt not yet caſt me away from thy preſence, nor dealt with me after my ſins, nor rewarded me according to mine iniquities. Adored be thine infinite goodneſs, that I am ſo far from being caſt into the place of weeping, wailing and gnaſhing of teeth, that I do not yet ſuffer here the pains, and the anguiſh and miſery, which mine offences have deſerved. I might have been lamenting them in thoſe doleful complaints of thy ancient ſervant; ſaying, *thine arrows ſtick faſt in me, and thy hand preſſeth me ſore.*

There is no ſoundneſs in my fleſh, becauſe of thine anger: neither is there any reſt in my bones, becauſe of my ſin. I am troubled, I am bowed down

Pſal. 38. 2. 3. 6. &c.

88. 16, 18.

down greatly; I go mourning all the day long. For my loyns are filled with a loathſome diſeaſe: and there is no ſoundneſs in my fleſh. I am feeble and ſore broken: I have roared by reaſon of the diſquietneſs of my heart. But thanks be to thy moſt long-ſuffering goodneſs, *thy fierce anger goeth not over me; thy terror hath not cut me off. Lovers and friends haſt thou not put far from me; nor mine acquaintance into darkneſs.* Yea, thou declareſt thy ſelf willing to accept me again into friendſhip with thy ſelf. And haſt in the moſt loving manner invited me to come unto thee, and bid me hope for a pardon through thy mercy in Chriſt Jeſus. O how ſweet are thoſe gracious words; *Come unto me all ye that labour, and are heaven laden, and I will give you reſt!* How precious are thy promiſes, *that thou wilt put thy laws into our mind, and write them in our hearts: And be merciful to our un-*

Matth. 11.26.
Heb. 8.10, 12.
Act. 26.18.

unrighteouſneſs, and remember our ſins and iniquities no more! Marvellous was thy mercy, O Lord Jeſus, who ſent thine Apoſtles *to open mens eyes, and to turn them from darkneſs to light, and from the power of Satan to God, that they might receive forgiveneſs of ſins, and inheritance among them, who are ſanctified by faith that is in thee.*

VIII.

I receive with all thankfulneſs this thy exceeding great grace, which hath declared, that *if we walk in the light as thou art in the light, we ſhall have fellowſhip one with another, and the bloud of Jeſus Chriſt thy Son ſhall cleanſe us from all ſin.* I admire thy incomprehenſible love. *O how great is the loving kindneſs of the Lord our God, and his compaſſion unto ſuch, as turn unto him in holineſs!* It conſtrains me to offer up my ſelf with the heartieſt affection to thy

1 Joh. 1. 7. Eccluſ. 17. 29.

thy ſervice: reſolving hereafter to be more watchful, more diligent, more zealous in the performance of my duty; and to walk more circumſpectly as a child of the light, and to make it my delight to do thy will, O God. Behold, O Lord, my heart is bent to reſign it ſelf perfectly into thy hands: and to make a new dedication of all the powers of my ſoul and body, to be employed continually in well doing. *I have ſworn and am ſtedfaſtly purpoſed to keep thy righteous precepts. I have choſen the way of truth; thy judgements have I laid before me. I will ſtick unto thy teſtimonies: and run the way of thy commandments. Thy word have I hid in my heart; that I may not ſin againſt thee. I will rejoyce in the way of thy teſtimonies, as much as in all riches. I will meditate in thy precepts: and have reſpect unto thy ways. I will delight my ſelf alſo in*

Pſal. 119. 30. 31. 11. 14, 15. 16. 115. 111. 112.

in thy ſtatutes: I will never forget thy word. Depart from me, ye evil doers: for I will keep the commandments of my God. Thy teſtimonies have I taken as my heritage for ever: for they are the rejoycing of my heart. I have inclined my heart to perform thy ſtatutes alway; even unto the end.

IX.

Accept, I beſeech thee, the free-will-offerings of my mouth, O Lord, and teach me thy judgements. Give me underſtanding, and I ſhall keep thy law: yea I ſhall obſerve it with my whole heart. Make me to go in the path of thy commandments; for therein do I delight. With my whole heart have I ſought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments. Pſal. 119. 108, 34, 35, 10, 115, 116, 117.

I am ſenſible of the exceeding great weakneſs and inconſtancy of our nature, and that without thy gracious aids, I ſhall not be able to accom-

pliſh theſe reſolutions. And therefore I look up unto thee, with the more ardent deſires, for power from above, to confirm and ſtrengthen them; and to aſſiſt me mightily to fulfil thy whole good will and pleaſure. I will ſtedfaſtly depend upon the promiſe of my bleſſed Saviour, who hath told me that thou wilt give thy holy ſpirit to them that ask it of thee. My hope, O God, is in this thy true and faithful word. *Uphold me according unto thy Word, that I may live*; and *let me not be aſhamed of my hope. Hold thou me up and I ſhall be ſafe: and I will have reſpect unto thy ſtatutes continually.* Preſerve in me ſuch a lively ſenſe of thy good will and readineſs to help me, that I may be ſo *ſtrong in our Lord and in the power of his might*, as to be *able to do all things through Chriſt ſtrengthing of me.* O thou Father of mercies, who haſt beſtowed ſo many and ſo great bleſſings on us without asking; who haſt viſited us ſo lo-

vingly,

vingly, when we could not desire any grace from thee, and when we could, but did not desire it, and when we did, but very coldly, and with little devotion of spirit: deny not the humble and importunate requests of thy poor supplicant, who most earnestly beseeches thee, *that thou wilt grant me, according to the riches of thy glory, to be strengthened with might, by thy Spirit, in the inner man.* Arm me therewith against the assaults of all temptations, either from the good, or the evil things of this life; that they may never seduce, or deterr me from my duty: but I may do vertuously, in all points, according to my Christian profession, and those vows and promises, wherein I stand ingaged to thee. Ephes. 3. 16.

X.

Fill me, O God, with the whole knowledge of thy *Will, in all wisdom and spiritual understanding, that*

I may walk worthy of the Lord, unto all pleaſing, being fruitful in every good work, and increaſing in the knowledge of thee, my God. Increaſe that faith, likewiſe, more and more, which *worketh by love*, and *purifieth the heart*, and *overcometh the world.* Stir up in me that lively hope, which may make me *purifie my ſelf, even as thou art pure:* and that ardent love to thee, which will make me chearfully do thy will, and love my Brethren, *with a pure heart fervently.* Excite in me a *great hunger and thirſt after righteouſneſs*; till I feel the ſatisfaction of perfect reconciliation with thee & conformity to thee. Continue me in the number of thoſe, who are humble and lowly in their own eyes, & moderate in all their appetites and deſires: who *mourn* daily that they have offended thee, and that others keep not thy laws: who are *meek and gentle towards all men*, in heart and word, and all their actions: who are *merciful* and kind, ready to give

and

and to forgive: who are *pure* in all their thoughts, intentions, paſſions and converſation: and who ſtudy the things that *make for peace*; and who are void of all pride and vain-glory, of all ſtrife and contention; *indeavouring to keep the unity of the ſpirit in the bond of peace.* O my God, poſſeſs me with ſuch a ſtrong ſenſe of the bleſſedneſs which thou haſt pronounced to all theſe; that I may be willing alſo to ſuffer wrong rather than to do it, and to ſuffer any thing for righteouſneſs ſake with a conſtant heart; giving thanks unto thee that thou wilt honour me and count me worthy *to ſuffer for the name of Chriſt.* Help me to give a good example to all my Neighbours by the ſincere practice of all theſe vertues; *ſhining as a light in the world*, and being *the ſalt of the earth:* That others *ſeeing my good works, may glorifie thee our heavenly Father.* Diſpoſe my heart *to caſt all its care on thee; to pray without ceaſing; to bleſs*

thy holy name at all times; to truſt in thee, with a ſtedfaſt confidence in thy almighty goodneſs; to make thee *my ſtrength, and my fortreſs, and the rock of my ſalvation; to have my converſation without covetouſneſs; and to ſet my affections on things above, where Chriſt is at thy right hand. In the multitude of my thoughts within me, let thy comforts, O Lord, delight my ſoul.* When I am full, O that I may never wax wanton, or forget thee; but *ſtill rejoyce in our Lord alway:* that ſo when I *have nothing,* I may be *as poſſeſſing all things.* Let the doing of my duty, ever be my pleaſure: and to ſerve thee, be a great reward. Let a contented mind, be inſtead of all that I want: and a thankful heart, ſweeten all my enjoyments. Let patience always eaſe me under my burdens: and an entire ſubmiſſion to thy will, breed in me a ſettled tranquillity of ſpirit. Let my delight be in the excellent that are in the earth: and my thoughts

be

be very much there while I live, where I desire to be when I dye. That heaven being my aim, my hope, and the longing expectation of my soul, I may conquer all difficulties in my way to it; and go through honour and dishonour, good report and bad report, prosperity and adversity, with the same chearfulness and evenness of mind; till at last I come to that place of rest and peace with the glorified Jesus, who is able to give eternal life to them that obey him.

XI.

Blessed be thy name, who hast inspired my heart with these holy desires; and wrought these purposes and resolutions in me. It is an earnest, I hope, of thy never failing love towards me; in assurance of which I repose my self with full satisfaction of heart. Yea, this is my joy and my glory, that I know thee; and that I live under the care of thy wise,

merciful, and almighty providence at preſent, and that I have the promiſe of remiſſion of ſins, and of a crown of life; *when the times of refreſhment ſhall come from thy preſence, and thou ſhalt ſend Jeſus* to conduct all the faithful to that glorious place where he lives. *This is my ſalvation and and all my deſire.* Now that I ſee thy abundant love, O heavenly Father, it ſufficeth. Rejoyce with me likewiſe, all ye Angels of God, according to the word of our Lord, that *there is joy in heaven over one ſinner that repenteth. Bleſs the Lord, ye heavenly hoſts, ye minſters of his that do his pleaſure.* And, O that this joy may increaſe continually by my daily increaſe in all goodneſs, and the perfecting of my repentance! till I come to be admitted into their company, and *enter into the joy of my Lord.*

Act. 3. 19.

2 Sam. 23. 5.

Luk. 15. 7.

Pſal. 103. 21.

XII.

XII.

And I wiſh the ſame happineſs to all mankind, which I deſire for my ſelf. It will multiply my joy to ſee all the people praiſe thee, O God, to ſee all the people praiſe thee. *O make a joyful noiſe unto the Lord all ye lands.* Pſal. 100. 1. *Serve the Lord with gladneſs, and come before his preſence with thanksgiving.* 96. 8, 9. *Give unto the Lord, O ye kindreds of the people, give unto the Lord glory and ſtrength. Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his name: bring an offering, and come into his courts. O worſhip the Lord with holy worſhip: fear before him all the earth.*

More eſpecially, I deſire the increaſe of *grace, mercy and peace* to thy choſen people: Beſeeching thee to bleſs thy univerſal Church, and to fill the hearts of all its members with thy love; that they may reſt

neither day nor night, ſaying, Bleſſed be God: Bleſſed be the glorious Majeſty of heaven and earth, whoſe power, wiſdom and goodneſs excel all praiſe, and endure for ever. And *ariſe, O God, for the ſighing of the poor and the needy: let not the men of the earth always oppreſs them. Let the ſalvation of thy people come out of thy holy place. Be thou exalted in thy own ſtrength, and ſo will we ſing and praiſe thy power. Lord continue thy loving kindneſs unto thoſe that know thee, and thy righteouſneſs to men of upright heart. Let not the foot of pride come againſt them: and let not the hand of the wicked remove them. O let the wickedneſs of the wicked come to an end: but eſtabliſh thou the* juſt.

Pſal. 10, 18.
14. 7.
21. 13.
36. 10, 11, 12.
7. 9.

Protect, O Lord, and defend that part of thy Church which thou haſt planted in theſe Kingdoms. Great and

and innumerable have been thy mercies to us: but, alas! we are a *ſtubborn and rebellious people; a people that ſet not our heart aright, and whoſe ſpirit hath not been ſtedfaſt with thee.* And therefore thou haſt juſtly plagued us many ways: and we ſhould have but our deſerts, if thy hand ſhould ſtill be ſtretched out, to *puniſh us ſeven times more for* our ſins. *But what is man that thou ſhouldſt take diſpleaſure at him? or what is a corruptible generation, that thou ſhouldeſt be extreamly angry with them? For in truth there is none among them but hath dealt wickedly: and among the faithful there is none that hath not done amiſs. But in this, O Lord, thy righteouſneſs and goodneſs ſhall be declared, if thou be merciful to them which have not the confidence of good works.* O be merciful unto us; be merciful unto us, and do not utterly

Pſal. 78. 8.

2 Eſdras 8. 34, 35, 36.

Pſal. 7, 8, 9, 118. 25.

for-

forſake us. *O remember not againſt us former iniquities*, and that we have *ſo ſoon forgot thy works*, and the wonderful deliverances which thou haſt given us. *Help us, O God of our ſalvation, for the glory of thy name, and deliver us and purge away our ſins for thy names ſake.* Fill us with thy wiſdom from above, that we may be heartily in love with the Religion, which we profeſs: and preſerve us in it forever. Defeat the counſels of all its enemies: and bring their wicked devices to nought. Unite us to each other in brotherly love: and make us at peace among our ſelves. O let peace be within this Church: *Let them proſper that love her, and ſeek her good.* Save *now, I beſeech thee, O Lord: O Lord, I beſeech thee, ſend now proſperity.* And for that end indue our Soveraign Lord, the King, with all the gifts and graces of thy holy Spirit. Hear the daily prayers of thy Church for him; *that he may*

al-

always incline to thy will, and walk in thy way: and ſtudy to preſerve thy people committed to his charge, in wealth, peace and godlineſs. Enlighten all our Biſhops, Prieſts and Deacons, with true knowledge and underſtanding of thy Word; and enable them both by their life and doctrine to ſet it forth, and ſhew it accordingly. Teach all our Counſellors and Senators wiſdom: and give all our Magiſtrates courage and zeal, to excute Juſtice, and to maintain Truth. Vouchſafe to all thy people increaſe of grace, to hear thy word with meekneſs, and to receive it with pure and ſincere affection, and to bring forth the fruits of the ſpirit. Give them honeſt and good hearts, to honour and obey the King, and all that are put in authority under him; to ſubmit themſelves to all their Governours, Teachers, ſpiritual Paſtors and Maſters; to order themſelves lowly & reverently to all their betters; to be careful not to hurt one ano-

another by word or deed; to be juſt and true in all their dealing; to bear no malice nor hatred in their hearts; to preſerve themſelves to temperance, ſoberneſs and chaſtity; not to covet one anothers goods; but to learn and labour truly to get their own living, and to do their duty in that ſtate of life, unto which it hath pleaſed thee to call them.

And, good Lord, bleſs the honeſt labours of all men among us, and crown them with good ſucceſs: Eſpecially of thoſe who have any work in hand, for the glory of thy name, the increaſe of Chriſtian piety, and the peace of thy Church. Reward the bounty of all charitable perſons, either for the honour of Religion, or the relief of them that are in poverty. And make the bones which thou haſt broken to rejoyce. Comfort all that are in a ſorrowful condition: and bring them out of all their troubles. Send thy Angel to guide and preſerve thoſe who are in jour-

journeys, upon their lawful occaſions. Let them that go down into the deep, and do buſineſs upon the great waters, obſerve thy providence; and praiſe thee for thy goodneſs, and for thy wonderful works for the children of men. Forgive all that have done me any evil: and requite the kindneſs of thoſe who have done me any good. *Let their ſouls abide in good, and their ſeed inherit the earth.* Pſal. 25. 13. Rejoyce the heart of all my Friends: and fulfil the petitions of all that have deſired my prayers. *Let none that wait on thee, O Lord, be aſhamed: let all them that truſt in thee, ſay continually, the Lord be magnified. Save and deliver* every one of *us, O Lord our God, from the hands of our enemies, to give thanks unto thy holy name, and to triumph in thy praiſe. Bleſſed be the God and Father of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, from everlaſting to everlaſting; and let all the people ſay, Amen. Praiſe the Lord.* 106. ult.

Af-

AFter this, if the ſpirits be tyred, it will be fit to give them ſome refreſhment. And then it will be very profitable to read and weigh ſeriouſly our Saviours Sermon on the Mount, contained in the V. VI. and VII. Chapters of the Goſpel according to St. Matthew. *And ſuch meditations may be interſperſed as are moſt ſutable to the perſons condition and occaſions: With the addition of ſome of the prayers foregoing, for* RESOLUTION *in well doing, or for the* DIVINE GRACE; *or for good* SUCCESS *in any buſineſs, or for Friends that are* TROUBLED IN MIND, *or are in a long* JOURNEY, &c. *And then conclude with the following Frayer and Thanksgiving.*

I,

I.

I Moſt humbly adore and worſhip thee, O Lord moſt high, the poſſeſſor of heaven and earth: And admire thy infinite love to mankind, whom thou haſt thought worth the expence of the bloud of thy dear Son, and the conduct and aſſiſtance of the holy Ghoſt, and the Miniſtry of Angels (by whom thou exerciſeſt a moſt watchful providence over us) and ſo many gracious meſſages from heaven, wherein thou haſt plainly declared, that thou deſireſt to ſee us eternally happy, by being made partakers of a Divine Nature. When we ſeriouſly conſider thy glorious perfections, and thy aſtoniſhing kindneſs towards us, we may juſtly wonder at our ſelves, that we ſhould ever refuſe to be conformed to thy will; nay, that we ſhould not be exceeding forward to joyn our ſelves unto thee, in moſt

moſt hearty love and intire friendſhip with thee. I am amazed at the dulneſs and ſtupidity of our Nature; that there ſhould need ſo many intreaties and beſeechings of us, to be ſo happy. It is impoſſible to think of thee, and to prefer any thing in our eſteem, and deſire and choice, and delight and joy, before thy favour and good will towards us: who art ſo able and ſo deſirous to beſtow the greateſt bliſs upon us. And therefore I moſt earneſtly beſeech thy goodneſs, that to all other mercies which I have begged of thee thou wilt add this grace, to bring thy ſelf often to my remembrance, and to poſſeſs my heart with a conſtant, ſerious and deep ſenſe of thy marvellous kindneſs; in giving me liberty to chuſe ſo great a good as thy ſelf, and in propounding to my will ſuch everlaſting happineſs; and in drawing me from thoſe ways, which are contrary even to my peace and ſatisfaction here, by ſuch powerful motives to well doing. II.

H.

Awaken, O Lord, awaken this ſenſe continually in my mind. Faſten my thoughts upon thoſe unſeen, and eternal enjoyments. Make me feel what an happineſs it is to love thee with all my heart; to cleave unto thee againſt all temptations which would allure or affright me from my duty; to bleſs and praiſe thee with joyful lips; to be kept in perfect peace and tranquillity, while my mind is ſtayed on thee; to be full and ſatisfied, and to deſire nothing more, but to live for ever in thy love. O make me more and more to conceive and remember, what an infinite delight, thou the infinite good canſt pour forth into us; how highly our Lord Jeſus is dignified and exalted; and that *thou haſt made him moſt bleſſed for ever, and made him exceeding glad with thy countenance*; and that

Pſal. 21. 6.

he-

he will bring all thy children unto his glory. Settle in my ſoul ſuch ſtrong apprehenſions of theſe things; that they may purifie my heart more perfectly, and provoke me to an unwearied diligence in well doing, and make me *endure hardſhip* alſo, if need be, *as a good ſouldier of Jeſus Chriſt, who was made perfect through ſufferings*.

III.

And aſſiſt me eſpecially in theſe holy addreſſes to thee; that *continuing inſtant in prayer*, I may feel my heart lifted up more and more towards heaven, by ardent breathings after thee. And indue me likewiſe with ſuch a ſpirit of wiſdom, and ſuch ſincerity of heart, that I may never be diſcouraged though I fall ſhort of the height of my deſires: but I may always thankfully acknowledge thy grace, in what I have attained, and labour earneſtly to grow better, with a quiet, patient, even

even and ſteady mind. Preſerve in me an humble confidence, that thou wilt never forſake the work of thine own hands: And let that confidence make me induſtrious, but not ſlothful. And let thy holy Spirit bleſs and further my endeavours; and a fervent deſire and hearty good will preſs me forward; and the pleaſures of Religion mightily indear it to me; and the joy that thou haſt ſet before me, make me run the way of thy commandments with an enlarged heart. And the nearer I come to the end of my race, may it pleaſe thy goodneſs to preſent me with a clearer ſight of that Crown of Life, which our Lord hath promiſed! Open to me more of the treaſures of thy Kingdom; and fill me with a greater joy in hope of thy glory: that ſo I may be willing *to be diſſolved, and to be with Chriſt, which is beſt of all.*

IV.

IV.

And now, O Lord, what thanks ſhall I render unto thee for theſe holy thoughts, deſires and affections, which, by thy grace, I feel in my heart: together with all the other benefits, which thou haſt beſtowed on me, or intendeſt for me. Great and marvellous things, O God, haſt thou wrought for the children of men: and thou haſt promiſed far greater, if we will but be truly grateful unto thee, for what we have already received. Thou ſendeſt one bleſſing, as the earneſt of another: having given thy Son to us, that he might give us thy holy Spirit; and given him to dye for us, that he might give us life. Thou granteſt to us thy grace, that we may repent: and thou giveſt repentance, that thou mayſt give us pardon: and thou pardoneſt our ſins, that we may be thy children; and being thy chil-

children thou deſigneſt to make us thy heirs together with our bleſſed Saviour. Thou giveſt us temporal bleſſings, that we may thirſt after ſpiritual: and thou filleſt us with ſpiritual bleſſings in Chriſt, that we may long for the accompliſhment of them in immortal life. There is none can declare the goodneſs of the Lord. We beſt declare our ſenſe of it, when we thankfully receive it; and become as good as thou wouldſt have us, and inableſt us to be. And how great, how free is that goodneſs, which is moſt of all pleaſed when we are happy! and eſteems our doing our ſelves good, with thy grace and favour, the return that we ſhould make to thy bounty! Thou doſt us good before we ask; and thou giveſt liberally unto us, that thou mayſt move us to ask more. Thou intreateſt us when we are unwilling: thou beſeecheſt us, that we would let thee bleſs us, and not put impediments

in

in the way of our own happineſs: thou pittieſt us, when we have no compaſſion for our ſelves; and art ſtill careful of us, when we trifle away the richeſt mercies.

V.

O the exceeding riches of thy grace to the children of men! who can number all thy mercies? and who can underſtand the greatneſs of thoſe, of which we make mention? It is eaſier to ſpeak of them, than to be affected with the multitude and ſurpaſſing value of them: and we can ſooner be affected with them, than do any thing worthy ſuch excellent love. Our Praiſes and Thankſgivngs conſiſt too much in words, and tranſient admirations, and ſudden paſſions. O that I had ſuch a ſerious, ſuch a conſiderate heart, as to return unto thee, the conſtant, uniform and chearful obedience of a godly life! By which, I know, I ſhall not

not only moſt praiſe and glorifie thee, but do the greateſt benefit to my ſelf. And when I have done all that I can, I will acknowledge my ſelf an unprofitable ſervant, that hath done no more, than was his duty to do. I will eſteem all my goodneſs, to be the fruit of thy great goodneſs to me. And I will rejoyce in this, that thou art formed in me, and that I am made like unto the Son of thy love; and that I have hopes through thy abundant and undeſerved mercy to live with him in his heavenly Kingdom. Which I beſeech thee haſten, to the eternal joy of all thoſe that *love his appearing*. Amen, Amen. *Let thy kingdom come; that I may ſee the good of thy choſen, and glory with thine inheritance:* and we may all with united hearts and affections, render our thanks unto thee, and ſing thy everlaſting praiſes.

The grace of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt,

and the love of God, and the communication of the holy Ghoſt, be with me, and with all thy people every where, both now and always. *Amen.*

A Prayer in Lent, *or upon any publick* Faſt.

I.

O Moſt glorious God; who art from everlaſting to everlaſting bleſſed in thy ſelf; and who alone canſt ſatisfie the hungry ſoul, and filleſt the humble with good things. In a ſerious ſenſe of my own emptineſs and thy fulneſs, of my great needs, and thy bounty and readineſs to beſtow thy benefits, I caſt down my ſelf before thee; worſhiping & adoring thine incomprehenſible perfections, with a great fear of thy Almighty Majeſty, and an humble hope in thine infinite goodneſs, and an hearty love to thy purity & righteouſneſs, and intire ſubmiſſion to thy holy

holy Will: believing thy gracious promiſes, deſiring to be guided by thy wiſdom, depending on thy providence, bleſſing and praiſing thee for thy unſpeakable mercies to me, and earneſtly beſeeching the continuance of them; with a continued ſenſe in my heart of thy abundant goodneſs to me, and to all thy creatures, and of thoſe duties which I owe to thee, and to all men.

II.

I moſt ſorrowfully bewail my careleſneſs, O Lord, that I have had ſo ſeldom, or ſo ſhort, or ſo cold and little affecting, thoughts of thee: and that I have performed theſe acts of worſhip and adoration, of fear and reverence, of faith and love, of ſubmiſſion and reſignation, of ſupplication and thankſgiving, with ſo little intention and earneſtneſs of mind, with ſo little zeal and fervency of affection, and with ſo little hu-

mility and proſtration of ſpirit. Nothing, O my God, is of ſo bitter remembrance to my thoughts, nothing is ſuch a load to my heart, as that I have loved the world, at any time, more than thee; and purſued with greater eagerneſs the poſſeſſions, and pleaſures, and honours of a dying life, than the glory and treaſures of thy Kingdom, the joy and happineſs of eternal endurance. It grieves me to think that I have, at any time, ſo coldly entertained the glad tydings of ſalvation, ſo liſtleſly embraced the loving invitations of my dear Saviour; ſo negligently improved the helps and aſſiſtances of the holy Spirit of Grace, and ſo faintly ſought, I ſorrowfully again acknowledge, that glory, honour and immortality which Chriſt hath brought to light by his Goſpel. How little have I been wounded with the dying and bleeding of thine only begotten Son for my ſake! How little concern'd ſometimes in his paſſionate

paſſionate deſires of the happineſs of mankind! How little melted with the ardent flames of his incomparable love! How little moved or perſwaded with his importunate intreaties! How incompliant with his inſpirations, diſobedient to his commands, and inſenſible of his precious promiſes, and fearful threatnings!

III.

I have praiſed thee, alas! but ſeldom or ſlightly, for ſo glorious an example, as he hath left us, of an holy life; for the effects and fruits of his paſſion, and interceſſion; and for the power which he hath obtained at thy right hand. And lother have I, too often, been to imitate his life, and to imploy that power which he hath ſent me from heaven, to bring my heart to a conformity with his pattern. How often have I received thy good creatures without ſuch ſerious and hearty thankſ-

givings for them, as they deſerve! and taſted their ſweetneſs, with little ſenſe of thee, or delight in thee, who art the fountain of all bliſs! How ſollicitous have I been to pleaſe men, and obtain the good opinion and praiſe of others; rather than to pleaſe thee, and to do thy commandments, *the praiſe of which endureth for ever!* O the little envyings that have been in my heart at my Brethrens greater proſperity! and my aptneſs to be angry and peeviſh, to entertain ſuſpicions eaſily, to make wrong or unkind interpretations, to aggravate offences, and to keep too long a ſenſe of injuries! I hate my ſelf even for theſe things. O how vile then and odious are all thoſe ſins of injuſtice, or unmercifulneſs, of which I may have been guilty!

IV.

Be merciful unto me, O Lord, be merciful unto me; through the blood of

of that ſpotleſs Lamb, which was ſhed for the ſins of the world. Remember not againſt me the vanity of my thoughts, the errors and miſtakes of my judgement, the pride of my ſpirit, the greedineſs of my ſenſual deſires, the violence and diſorder of any of my paſſions, the unrulineſs of my tongue, the inconſtancy of my purpoſes, or the baſeneſs and unworthineſs of any of my ends and intentions. O holy God, and merciful Father, enter not into judgement with me for the miſpenſe of my precious time, for letting ſlip any good opportunites, or for my ill husbanding the many Talents, which thou haſt intruſted me withal. Let not the abuſe of any of thy creatures, the ill example that I have given to any of my Neighbours, my unthankfulneſs for a world of mercies, my inobſervance or forgetfulneſs of thy fatherly providences, and my inſenſibleneſs of others miſeries, be charged upon

me at the day of our Lord, or incenſe thy ſevere diſpleaſure againſt me in this preſent life. O remember not my immoderate ſorrow for worldly loſſes; my exceſſive pleaſure in the abundance of any worldly enjoyments; the deadneſs of my grief, and the ſcarcity of my tears, for my own ſins, and the ſins of others; and the heartleſneſs of my joys in thee and in thy Son Chriſt, and for all the good thou haſt done to me and to my Brethren, or which they do for thy honour, and the comfort of thy people. Let not any diſcontent with my condition, provoke thee to make it worſe: nor my want of love to thee, deprive me of the love of others: nor the breach of any of my reſolutions, be puniſhed with an indifferency and careleſneſs of ſpirit: nor the abuſe of any of thy bleſſings, or unthankfulneſs for them, move thine offended goodneſs to ſtrip me naked of them.

V.

V.

But, gracious Lord, ſo pardon me, as to give me the grace of thy holy Spirit to change and renew me throughout, in ſpirit, ſoul and body, and to enable me daily to amend my life according to thy holy word. That's the hearty deſire and purpoſe of my ſoul: which longs for nothing more than a power from above, to poſſeſs me with more ſteady and affectionate thoughts of thee; and to fill me with a more inflamed love to thee, and to all my Brethren; and to diſpoſe my will to reſign it ſelf in all things to thee, and chearfully to comply with thy providence, and zealouſly to imploy all holy opportunities of doing or receiving good. O God, deny me not this great grace, though unworthy of the leaſt; but ſtrengthen me with might by thy Spirit in the inner man. Let it teach and direct me in the right

way; let it aſſiſt me to walk in it; let it conſtantly incourage my progreſs; chearing and refreſhing me when I am ready to faint, upholding me when I am ready to fall, recovering me when I ſlip, enabling me with fervent deſires to implore thy mercy, and with reſolved watchfulneſs to ſtrengthen my ſelf againſt all temptations for the time to come.

VI.

Preſerve in me ſuch a ſerious and deep ſenſe of the worth of my ſoul, of the weight of all eternity, of the certainty and greatneſs of the glory which ſhall be revealed, that they may prevail more with me than all the honours, and riches, and pleaſures of this life. Prepoſſeſs me with a clear underſtanding of the Goſpel of our Saviour, with a ſtrong faith, a fervent charity, and a lively hope, againſt all other things that preſs

preſs upon me, and ſollicite my affections: that ſo nothing may find admittance into my heart, but what ſhall ſubmit to thy laws, and live under the government and diſcipline of our Lord Jeſus. Inſtruct me how to make all my pleaſures diſcreet, moderate and uſeful to me; that they may never take up the beſt of my time, nor devour the ſtrength of my mind. Teach me to uſe the riches of this world aright, and to do good to my ſelf and others with them. Diſpoſe me to look upon greatneſs or honours, but as greater opportunities to do thee more honour, and the world more ſervice. Moderate all my paſſions, and ſubdue them perfectly to the obedience of Reaſon and Religion. O that all my converſation with others may be innocent and profitable: and my private retirements more devout and heavenly: and all my imployments without inordinate cares and fears, or any diſtruſt of thy good pro-

providence. Help me to look upon long life as deſireable, only that I may have more time to root out perfectly all evil habits and diſpoſitions, to implant and increaſe all Divine Vertues, & to do the more good; that I may be better fitted for an happy life, world without end. *Amen.*

The ſame prayer may be uſed in time of any publick calamity: and ſome of theſe following prayers added, as there ſhall be occaſion.

A Prayer in time of Plague.

GReat and many, O Lord, are the ſins whereby we have provoked thee in theſe Kingdoms, to ſend all thy ſore judgements upon us; *the ſword, the famine, and the peſtilence, to cut off from them man and beaſt.* It is only of thine infinite mercies, that we are not utterly conſumed, and becauſe thy compaſ-

ſions

ſions fail not. Bleſſed be thy goodneſs, that we are not yet delivered into the hand of thoſe that hate us; but only corrected by thy own hand, who art the Father of mercies. To them we flee now in our great diſtreſs: and beſeech thee, that thou wilt not ſhut up the bowels of thy tender mercy and compaſſion towards us, in diſpleaſure. But puniſh us, that thou maiſt pardon us, and amend us, and make us a more devout, ſober, righteous, and charitable people, zealous of good works. Say to thy deſtroying Angel, Hold thy hand, it is enough. Or if thou art pleaſed to have it ſtill ſtretched out againſt us, give grace to us who are yet in health to ſpend our time in examining our hearts and lives; in bewailing our offences; in ſetling our purpoſes of repentance and new obedience; in inuring our ſelves to delight in Prayer and holy Meditation; in giving thanks to thee for thy merciful preſervation of us; in pre-

preparing our ſelves for whatſoever change thou art pleaſed to make in our condition; and in doing good with compaſſionate hearts, to thoſe poor people, that lye under thy heavy viſitation. And graciouſly vouchſafe to beſtow upon them intire patience and ſubmiſſion to thy Will: and enable them, with unfeigned repentance and humble hope in thy mercy, to reſign themſelves and theirs into thy hands; that howſoever thou ſhalt diſpoſe of any of us, living or dying we may be the Lords.

Lord have mercy upon us all, for Jeſus Chriſt his ſake. Amen.

In time of War.

O God, who haſt juſtly puniſhed our carnal ſecurity, and abuſe of that peace and quietneſs which we

we have enjoyed, by making us *hear the ſound of the trumpet, and the alarm of war*; be merciful unto us, I moſt humbly beſeech thee: and awaken ever one of our ſouls thereby, to ſearch and try our ways, and to turn unto thee, by a timely repentance and amendment of our lives. Though we deſerve to be cut off by the ſword, which is unſheathed as *a fooliſh people that have not known thee; ſottiſh children, that have no underſtanding; who are wiſe to do evil, but to do good have no knowledge*: yet *ſpare us, good Lord, ſpare thy people, and give not thy heritage to reproach.* O thou God of peace, who didſt ſend thy own Son among thine enemies, to make reconciliation between loſt men and thy ſelf; inſpire our hearts, and the hearts of all thoſe with whom we are at difference, with a love of peace: and incline us to hearken and conſent to reaſonable terms of

Jer. 4. 22. Joel 2. 17.

re-

reconciliation. And for that end root out of every one of our minds and hearts, all pride and ambition; all inordinate desire of greatness and dominion; all covetousness, and greediness of wealth; all false opinions, prejudices, and misapprehensions; all anger, passion, and causeless jealousies; and especially all study of revenge; all rancour, and bitterness; all hatred and malice; with whatsoever else is contrary to the Doctrine and Spirit of our Lord Jesus Christ. Possess us with the Spirit of Truth, and love, and brotherly affection. Make us tender-hearted, and to have compassion one towards another; to study to be peace-makers; to pray for peace; to seek those things which will make for peace; and not only to seek after it, but to pursue it, to the utmost of our power. Direct to those expedients which will happily unite, and tye us fast together. Or if these miserable differences continue

tinue, and cannot otherwiſe be compoſed, go forth, O Lord, with our hoſts: give wiſdom and valour to our leaders; reſolution and undaunted courage to our ſouldiers, and good ſucceſs to all thoſe enterpriſes which are undertaken for the common good and ſafety of theſe Kingdoms. O God, let *us fall into thy hands, for thy mercies are great: but not into the hands of men, when they are wrathfully diſpleaſed at us.* And if thou art pleaſed to crown us with victory, give us grace to uſe it with moderation, juſtice and charity. O that we may overcome likewiſe all temptations to bold and preſumptuous continuance in our ſins againſt thee: and be ſubdued by thy favour towards us, to a ſerious ſtudy and care, how to *lead a peaceable life in all godlineſs and honeſty*; for the ſake of Chriſt Jeſus, the Prince of peace. Whoſe grace be with us all. *Amen.*

In time of Scarcity.

O God, who *turneſt a fruitful land into barrenneſs, for the wickedneſs of them that dwell therein*; pour down upon the ſinful inhabitants of theſe Iſlands, a ſerious ſenſe of their own undeſervings, and of thy righteous judgements, which thou haſt ſent upon them. That they may humble themſelves before thee, and repent of their wantonneſs and riot, of their feaſting themſelves without fear, and hardning their hearts againſt the cryes of the poor, of their diſcontent and repining in the midſt of plenty, and their loathing the divine food of their ſouls; which thou haſt juſtly puniſhed with ſcarcity of bread in all places. Make us aſhamed, O Lord, and heartily ſorry for theſe and all other our offences againſt

gainſt thy Divine Majeſty. And as an earneſt of better obedience for the time to come, diſpoſe the hearts of thoſe who are afflicted, to ſubmit with meekneſs to thy puniſhment: and preſerve them from all murmuring at thy wiſe providence. Open the hearts likewiſe of thoſe who are rich, to ſhow mercy to them, and comfort them in their miſeries. The greater ſtores of proviſion any have treaſured up, againſt this time of want; encline them ſo much the more to conſider the poor and needy, and fear to oppreſs them. Enlarge their hearts in more abundant charity, by the advantage they make of this preſent Scarcity. And when thou ſhalt have turned it into plenty again, Lord, make us all truly thankful, and ſoberly to uſe thy bleſſings, and to bring forth plentifully the fruit of good living, to the honour and praiſe of thy Name, and the eternal happineſs of our ſouls and bodies, in that world where

where there is no want, but fulneſs of joy for evermore. *Amen.*

A Thanksgiving for any publick or private mercies.

O God moſt high, and bleſſed for evermore: who haſt beſtowed upon us the happineſs to know and underſtand thee, that thou art the Lord of all, and that thou *exerciſeſt loving* Jer. 9. 24. *kindneſs, judgement and righteouſneſs in the earth*, and that thou haſt ſaid, *in theſe things thou delighteſt.* Thou art to be worſhipped and adored with my continual praiſes and thankſgivings, who am here proſtrated before the Throne of thy Grace, oppreſſed with the great load of thy mercies and benefits, which call upon all that is within me to bleſs thy holy Name. I have often acknowledged that thou art

art the Author of my being; and that it is thy favour which hath made my life not to be a burden to me, as it might have been by innumerable miſeries. And now I heartily renew thoſe acknowledgements; and thank thy great goodneſs for my long continued health, eaſe, peace and plenty; or that thou haſt mercifully relieved and ſupported me, in any ſickneſs, pain, trouble, or loſs of worldly goods that hath befaln me. Particularly I thank thee for thy late bleſſings which thou haſt conferred upon me, notwithſtanding my undeſervings, and high provocations, which I have any way given thy divine Majeſty, to deprive me of all good things.

[*Here mention the particulars in which you are privately concern'd: and if it be the publick mercy of ceaſing a great* Contagion, *proceed thus.*]

Bleſſed

Bleſſed be thy goodneſs, which hath preſerved ſo many of us alive in the midſt of a great mortality; and hath reſtored health again into the habitations of our Neighbours. Bleſſed be thy ſparing mercy which hath *delivered us from the noiſome peſtilence; and when a thouſand fell at our ſide, and ten thouſand at our right hand, didſt not ſuffer it to come nigh our dwelling. Thou haſt been our refuge, and our fortreſs, our God, in whom we ought to truſt for ever.*

Pſal. 91. 2, 7.

[After a *War* is ended, ſome ſuch words as theſe may be added.]

If it had not been the Lord who was on our ſide, may we all well ſay, if it had not been the Lord who was on our ſide, when men roſe up againſt us: Then they had ſwallowed us up quick, when

Pſal. 124. 1, 2, &c. 65. 7. 29. ult.

when their wrath was kindled againſt us. Bleſſed be the Lord, who hath not given us as a prey to their teeth. Bleſſed be the Lord, who hath cauſed wars to ceaſe: and made our enemies to be at peace with us. It is the Lord, that ſtilleth the noiſe of the Seas, the noiſe of their waves, and the tumult of the people. The Lord giveth ſtrength to his people: the Lord bleſſeth his people with peace.

[When *Plenty* is reſtored, ſay]

Thou haſt viſited the earth and bleſſed it; thou haſt made it very plenteous. Thou haſt crowned the year with thy goodneſs; and thy clouds have dropt fatneſs. Thou haſt bleſſed our proviſion abundantly, and ſatisfied our poor again with bread. Bleſſed be the Lord, who hath cauſed the former and latter rain to come down for us in their ſeaſon; and filled us with Pſal. 65. 9, 12. 132. 15. 147. 14. Joel 2. 23.

the

the fineſt of the wheat. We eat in plenty and are ſatisfied: Praiſed be the name of the Lord our God, that hath dealt wondrouſly with us.

But above all, thy great and glorious name is to be praiſed, for thine incomprehenſible mercy in thy Son Chriſt, whom thou haſt ſent unto us with better bleſſings; to be the Mediator of our peace with thee, to heal all the diſeaſes of our ſinful natures, and to deliver us from the power of Satan, and of Hell and Death, and to reſtore us to an immortal life. Thanks be to thine infinite goodneſs, which hath taught us by him the way of truth and righteouſneſs; and made him an offering for our ſins; and raiſed him from the dead, to the Throne of Glory in the heavens; and ſent from thence the holy Spirit, to enlighten our minds with the whole knowledge of thy will, and to ſhed abroad thy great love in our hearts,

and

and to be the earneſt of an heavenly inheritance; together with our bleſſed Lord; who is heir of all things, having the hoſts of Angels ſubject unto him, whom he hath appointed (bleſſed be thy Name) for the guard and defence, the ſuccour and help of all his faithful ſervants. I thank thee, O Lord, that thou haſt pardoned ſo many offences; & ſo graciouſly importuned me to return to my duty; and afforded ſo long time and ſpace of repentance; and waited ſo patiently for my amendment; and continued to me conſtantly, as I muſt again confeſs, ſo many bleſſings which I have abuſed, or reſtored them to me after a ſhort correction of my faults. I cannot wiſh for any further happineſs, but only for an heart gratefully to reſent thy love, and to delight to meditate continually on thy tender mercies; that ſo I may love thee more, and thank and ſerve thee better the reſt of my days, and live in good hope to paſs from

all this happineſs here to eternal bliſs. And this grace thou haſt likewiſe promiſed to beſtow upon me; yea, I feel the motions of thy holy Spirit in my heart, exciting in me a ſenſe of thy goodneſs, and provoking me to love and to good works.

O my ſoul, never forget the loving kindneſs of the Lord. Let his name be daily bleſſed and praiſed with a joyful heart; for *his goodneſs endureth continually.* To him I ought to live, and not unto my ſelf; for he is my Creator, and Saviour, and Comforter, who daily loadeth me with his benefits. Therefore I ought to glorifie him, both with my body and with my ſpirit, which are his. Accept, good Lord, of the unfeigned deſires and purpoſes, which thou ſeeſt in my heart, in all things to be conformed to thy Will. And accordingly aſſiſt me always with the renewed influences of thy heavenly

Pſal. 52. 1.

venly grace, that I may grow in ſpiritual wiſdom and knowledge of my duty; and that I may heartily love it, and faithfully remember it, and give all diligence to perform it, notwithſtanding any difficulties that I meet withal to oppoſe it. Inable me to maintain a conſtant ſenſe of thy divine preſence, to reverence thy holy Name and Word, and to walk before thee in all humility, thankfulneſs, patience, heavenly mindedneſs, and contentedneſs of ſpirit. And help me likewiſe to exerciſe all juſtice, charity, meekneſs, and forgiveneſs towards all men: and to live in a ſober, chaſte and moderate uſe of all the good things of this world. Let thy fear always curb the diſorders of my paſſions; and thy love be a ſpur to my indeavours; and the example of the Lord Jeſus, and all the Saints provoke me to zeal and fervency of ſpirit; and the hope of eternal bliſs ſtrengthen, incourage and make me conſtant in

all the troubles and hardships of this life: that persevering in well doing, I may finish my course with joy, and win the Crown of Righteousness, which he hath promised to all the faithful. *Amen, Amen.*

Assist me mercifully, O Lord, in these my Supplications and Prayers, and dispose the way of thy servant, towards the attainment of everlasting salvation; that among all the changes and chances of this mortal life, I may ever be defended by thy most gracious and ready help, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

A short Prayer for a Student.

I Look up unto thee O Lord, *from whom cometh every good and perfect gift*, beseeching thee to direct, assist and bless all the labours of my mind. Illuminate my understanding,

ing, O Father of lights, and lead me unto right apprehenſions in all things. Indue me with that humility and ſoberneſs of mind, which thou delighteſt to reward, with more of thy gifts and graces. Beſtow upon me a diſcerning ſpirit; a ſound judgement; and an honeſt and good heart, ſincerely diſpoſed to imploy all the Talents which thou haſt, or ſhalt intruſt me withal, to thy honour and glory, and to the good of mankind.

For which end, I beſeech thee to excite my thirſt after uſeful, rather than much knowledge. And eſpecially inrich me with the treaſures of that inſpired wiſdom, contained in thy holy Scriptures; which are able to *make me wiſe unto ſalvation.* That growing in underſtanding and goodneſs, as I grow in years; my profiting may be apparent unto all men: and I may give a comfortable account of my time to thee, my God, at the day of the Lord Jeſus. *Amen.*

A Prayer that may be used, any time of the day, when a person hath leisure to retire.

O Lord, the great Creator and Governor of all things; I proſtrate my ſelf before thee, in the humbleſt adoration of thy incomprehenſible Majeſty: acknowledging that I depend intirely upon thee; praiſing and magnifying thy moſt glorious Power, Wiſdom and Goodneſs, which are conſpicuous every where; and rendring unto thee my moſt hearty thanks for all the benefits, which thou haſt ſo freely and undeſervedly conferred on me. Thou art bountiful to the whole world: All thy Works praiſe thee; and we the children of men ought more particularly to bleſs thee and ſpeak good of thy Name, who have received ſingular marks and tokens of thy favour & grace, above all the reſt

of

of our fellow creatures. Thou haſt made us after thine own Image; and indued us with reaſonable and immortal ſpirits; and given us a capacity to reflect on thee the author of our being, and to be like unto thee in wiſdom, holineſs, goodneſs and truth. But above all I ought to remember continually that great demonſtration of thy love, in ſending thy dear Son to live among us, to dye for us, and to give us an aſſured hope of immortal life.

I love thee, O Lord. I renew the oblation, which I have often made of my ſoul and body to thee. I wait upon thee ſtill, for what thou ſeeſt good for both. I hope in thy everlaſting mercies, that thou wilt pardon all my forgetfulneſs of thee, and ingratitude unto thee. And I moſt earneſtly implore the grace of thy holy Spirit, to preſerve in my mind, a powerful ſenſe of thee; an ardent love to thee; and an holy care to pleaſe and obey thee in all things.

That the very ſame mind and ſpirit may be in me, which was in Chriſt Jeſus our Lord; the Spirit of wiſdom and underſtanding, and the fear of thee; the ſpirit of meekneſs, humility, purity and charity: and that I may do thy will with ſuch chearfulneſs, zeal, conſtancy, patience and perſeverance, as he did.

I thank thee, O Lord, for all helps and aſſiſtances of that good Spirit, which thou haſt already favoured me withal. That thou haſt ſo frequently made good motions to my ſoul; inſpired me with holy thoughts, and devout affections; and inclined and diſpoſed my will, many ways, to the choice of that which is good. I thank thee for the many ſeaſonable admonitions which thou haſt given me, for the happy opportunities which have been afforded me, for wiſdom and vertue; for a good education, pious examples, faithful friends, and all other furtherances in the way of ſalvation.

I remember likewiſe, with my moſt grateful acknowledgements, what abundance of good things thou haſt beſtowed on me, from time to time, for my better accommodation in this preſent life. Bleſſed be thy name for my continued health, and food, and raiment. Bleſſed be thy name that my bones are not broken; that I am not groaning under the ſoreſt pains; that I dwell in ſafety night and day; and that I ſtill ſee my friends and acquaintance, and many other comforts round about me.

I thank thee, O Lord, for theſe, and all bleſſings whatſoever, that thou haſt conveyed to me by the Miniſtry of thy holy Angels; unto whom thou haſt given the charge of me. *O bleſs the Lord*, together with me, *ye his angels which excel in ſtrength, that do his commandments, hearkening to the voice of his word.* And enable me every day, I moſt humbly beſeech thee, O Father of mercies, to bleſs thee better; with a purer

heart, and a more lively ſenſe of all thy love, and a greater delight in thy divine Service, and a forwardneſs to every good work.

And as thou haſt preſerved me hitherto this day: ſo bleſs me the remaining part of it. That indeavouring ſincerely in all my deſigns, words, deſires and actions to approve my ſelf to thee, as thy good and faithful ſervant, I may with a good conſcience preſent my ſelf before thee in the concluſion of it: and with the greater confidence of thy gracious acceptance renew my praiſes and acknowledgements, and commend my ſelf to thy bleſſing, and hope for the continued protection of thy holy Angels; through Chriſt Jeſus. To whom be glory for ever. *Amen.*

A ſhorter to the ſame purpoſe.

I Proſtrate my ſelf before thee, O Lord of heaven & earth, in all humility

mility of ſoul and body. I acknowledge my dependance upon thee; and thy conſtant care and providence over me, ever ſince I was born: particularly this day; in keeping me hitherto from many dangers, and providing for me many good things; as well for the comfort and pleaſure, as for the neceſſary ſupport of this preſent life. Eſpecially I thank thee for thy exceeding great love in the Lord Jeſus; through whom thou haſt given me good hope of better enjoyments in the life to come, by following that bleſſed example which he hath ſet us, of all well doing, and contented ſuffering.

It is all reaſon, O Lord, that I ſhould love thee, and intirely truſt in thee, and moſt willingly ſerve and obey thee. Accordingly I here again dedicate my ſelf both ſoul and body to thee. I vow my ſelf ever to thy ſervice. I hope ſtill in thy great mercies, which have been ſo tender and ſo abundant towards me. I depend

pend upon thee, for what thou ſeeſt to be profitable for me. I refer my ſelf abſolutely to thy wiſe Will; reſolving to reſt contented and ſatisfied in that condition wherein thou placeſt me. I believe thou ordereſt all things in heaven and in earth; and takeſt the greateſt care of thoſe that wait upon thee, and commit themſelves unto thee, as I now do, in confidence of thy goodneſs, and ſubmiſſion to thy pleaſure. Eſpecially I rely upon thee, for thy holy Spirit, to preſerve in me theſe holy purpoſes, and inſpire me continually with good thoughts, and ſtir up in me heavenly affections, and increaſe and ſtrengthen my faith and hope in thee, and aſſiſt my indeavours to do according to my pious reſolutions.

Bleſſed be thy great goodneſs for what I have felt already: I thank thee for thy many illuminations from above; for thy grace ſo early preventing me; for the aſſiſtance and furtherance thou haſt

haſt given me; and the happy opportunities I have met withal of improving my ſelf in true wiſdom and goodneſs. It is the earneſt deſire of my ſoul to grow more in both, and to be made perfectly like to my bleſſed Lord and Saviour. By whom all honour and glory be given to thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. *Amen.*

A Grace before meat.

WE *acknowledge thy goodneſs, O Lord, in making this* [plentiful] *proviſion for us. Pardon our ingratitude for thy former mercies. And bleſs us with ſuch a diſcreet and thankful uſe of theſe thy good creatures, that they may not hinder us in our duty, but better diſpoſe us to do thee all faithful ſervice in our ſeveral places; through our Lord and Saviour Jeſus Chriſt.* Amen.

Or this.

WE look up unto thee, O Lord, who giveſt us life and breath, and all things; beſeeching thee to forgive us all our ſins, and to make us ſuch thankful partakers of theſe thy good creatures, that by a moderate uſe of them our bodies may be refreſhed, and made more fit to accompany our ſouls in hearty endeavours to do thee all faithful ſervice, through Jeſus Chriſt our Lord. Amen.

Or this.

WE renew our thankful acknowledgements unto thee, O Lord, for making again this merciful proviſion for us, who are unworthy of the leaſt of thy favours. Add thy gracious pardon likewiſe; and bleſs the ſober uſe of theſe thy creatures, to the ſtrengthning of our frail bodies. And endue our ſouls with the grace of thy

thy holy Spirit, that we may return back unto thee the ſtrength we receive from them in well doing, and it may be as delightful as our meat and drink to do the will of thee our heavenly Father, through Jeſus Chriſt, &c. Amen.

After Meat.

WE return unto thee, O Lord, our hearty thanks for theſe and all other the like mercies beſtowed upon us, ever ſince we had a being; eſpecially for the promiſes thou haſt given us of eternal life, by thy Son Chriſt. Enable us, we beſeech thee, to continue ſo patiently in all good works, that at laſt we may attain it. And bleſs thine Univerſal Church, theſe Realms, the King, the Queen, and all the Royal Family; and grant us thy grace, mercy, and peace, through Chriſt Jeſus. Amen.

Or this.

BLeſſed be thy name, O Lord, for our continued health, and food, and raiment, and friends, and all other good things, whereby thou maintaineſt the comfort of this preſent life. Above all we thank thee, for thy love in Chriſt Jeſus, and the hope thou haſt given us by him, of better things in another world: Unto which we beſeech thee to bring us by hearty obedience to thee all our days. Save thine Univerſal Church, &c.

Or this.

WE thank thee, O Lord, that we are alive, and that we live in health, and peace, and the enjoyments of all good things that are needful for the ſupport of this preſent life, and for the attainment of a better. Continue them, we pray thee, unto us: and continue in us ſuch a thankful ſenſe of thy love, that we may live unto thee, by whom we live. Save thy Univerſal Church, &c.

THE

THE TABLE.

Prayers for Families.

	Page.
On the Lords day Morning	1.
At Night.	11.
A ſhorter form for the Morning	21.
Another at Night	27.
A Prayer for Afternoon	34.
Another	39.
On a Communion day Morning	44.
At Night	49.
On Munday Morning	57.
At Night	62.
Tueſday Morning	69.
At Night	75.
Wedneſday Morning	81.
At Night	87.
Thurſday Morning	95.

At

Page.

At Night 101.
Friday Morning 109.
At Night 115.
Saturday Morning 123.
At Night 130.

A ſhorter form for any Morning 137.
Another 140.
A ſhort Prayer for the Evening 143.
Another 145.
Morning Prayer *for a particular perſon* 149.
For the Evening 156.
A ſhorter for the Morning 163.
For the Evening 166.

Prayers in the Church.

A *Short Prayer before* Divine Service *begin* 171.
Another 172.
A longer for that purpoſe 174.
Another more large 177.
After Divine Service 182.
Prayers at home before Morning Service

	Page.
vice	183.
After it is done	186.
Before Evening Service	188.
After it is done	190.
On any Festival *in remembrance of our Saviour*	192.
On Good Friday Morning	199.
In the Evening.	206.
On any Saints day	215.
On ones Birth-day	222.
For Resolution *in well doing*	229.
After Relapse *into sin*	238.
A Thanksgiving for hope of Pardon	245.
A Prayer for Divine Grace	250.
Especially in dangerous temptations	255.
For serious consideration	258.
Ejaculations *on several occasions*	264,
unto	272.
For Submission *to God in case of any loss*	273.
In trouble of Mind	277.

Page.

A Prayer to be used by others for such Persons. 283.
Another to the same use 289.

A Prayer in the beginning of a Sickness 298.
A Prayer to be said by others with the sick Person 305.
Another at the point of Death. 312.
A Thanksgiving after Recovery 315.
Another to be said by the whole Family 321.
A Prayer for a sick Child 327.
A Prayer before a Journey 331
In it, or at the end of it 334.
In case of any hurt received in it 336.
For a friend in a Journey 339.
A Thanksgiving after a safe return 342.

A Prayer for one going to Sea 347.
Thanksgiving when he is arrived or return'd safely 351.

Page.

For a woman with Child 356.
When her Travel *is near* 358.
Another to be said by her Relations *for her* 361.
A Thanksgiving by the Company present after safe Deliverance 364.
Another by her self alone 369.

A Prayer for good success in extraordinary business 373.
For one that intends a single life 377.
For one that deliberates about Marriage 386.
For one that is entring into it 390.

Parents *Prayer for their* Children 395.
A Childs *Prayer* 399.
A shorter 401.
An Orphan's *Prayer* 402.
A Widows 403.
A Servant's 406.
A Prisoner's *for debt.* 410.
A Malefactor's 414.
A Souldier's *Prayer* 419.

Page.

An Aged *persons Prayer.* 421.

A large form of Praiſe, Thankſgiving and Prayer, when any one would ſpend a day or part of it in Devotion 425.

In twelve Parts.

Page.		Page.
First part 431.	*Seventh*	453.
Second part 434.	*Eighth*	455.
Third 440.	*Ninth*	457.
Fourth 443.	*Tenth*	459.
Fifth 446.	*Eleventh*	463.
Sixth 449.	*Twelfth*	465.

The ſame Devotion continued after the ſame form 472.

In five Parts.

Page.		Page.
Firſt 473.	*Fourth*	478.
Second 475.	*Fifth*	480.
Third 476.		

A Prayer in Lent, or upon any publick Fast.

In six Parts.

	Page.		Page.
First	482.	*Fourth*	486.
Second	483.	*Fifth*	489.
Third	485.	*Sixth*	490.

A Prayer in time of Plague 492.
In time of War. 494.
In time of Scarcity 498.
A Thanksgiving for any publick or private Mercies 500.
Particularly for Health 502.
For Peace Ibid.
For Plenty 503.
A Students *Prayer.* 508.
A Prayer, at any time of the day 510.
A shorter to the same purpose 514.

Graces before Meat 517.
Graces after Meat 519.

TRINITY COLLEGE LIBRARY CAMBRIDGE

Some new Books Printed for Richard Royſton.

THE *Chriſtian Sacrifice*, a Treatiſe ſhewing the neceſſity, and manner of Receiving the Holy Communion, together with ſuitable Prayers and Meditations for every Month in the Year, and the Principal Feſtivals in memory of our Bleſſed Saviour: in 12. By the ſame Author.

A Friendly Debate, between a Conformiſt and a Non-conformiſt, in 8° the firſt and ſecond Part.

Toleration diſapproved and condemn'd 4°: By *William Aſhton* of *Brazen Noſe* College.

War and Peace reconcil'd: Or a Diſcourſe of Conſtancy in unconſtant times: in 8.

The End.